24

KAZUHIRO FUJITA

藤田和日郎

Le Cirque de Karakuri

からくりサーカス

からくりサーカス

24

藤田和日郎

小学館

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燃え盛る丸山遊廓の業火の中で、
アンジェリーナは決意する。
自分の秘密はばれたとて、
正二郎の命は守ります。
「私はあなたに、絶対に
死んで欲しくないのだもの！」
そして勝の記憶の旅は、
いよいよ核心に迫り行く。
あいつが、あの人形が、そしてあの男も！
明治の世の中、全ては日本へやってくる。
ご存じ、超熱血機巧活劇
また一歩真実に近づく第24巻であります。



Le Cirque de Karakuri

KAZUHIRO FUJITA PRESENTS

取材のためフランス行った 長崎編

by うふふたかこひろう



吉原エンジョイ　by ケイ

この長崎編を描くにあたって方言指導をしてくれた、同業の村枝賢一君に、深く感謝の意を表したいと思うばい。

「村枝はん、ほんなこつありがとじゃけんのう。ぬしゃ「RED」の執筆中やというのに、はっちゃきんなってワシの方言指導ばしてくれたっしょや。『なんも、なんも。』なんち言うてくれてたばってん、ワシは舞うごっつ嬉しゅうてかなわんかっとってんちんとんしゃん。」……何だと？間違っとる？少しだけな。だが心と心は伝わった！…伝わっとらんかもしれん？ だが、誠意はあった!!……伝わらなきゃダメじゃないかって!?



藤田和日郎

KAZUHIRO FUJITA PRESENTS

ブカブカ、トンドン。通行く坊ちゃん、嬢ちゃん、ただいま当サーカスでは大首の長崎を舞台にしての大ロマンスを上演してますぞよ、そしてその次は、いよいよこの幕クライマックスの明治時代、「黒岡村事件」の始まりであります。大丈夫、「からくりサーカス」は、何時、何時入りましてもお楽しみいただけるので御座居ます。では、「からくりサーカス」第24巻、坊ちゃん嬢ちゃん、ゆったりと見てくださいな。



●AD／伊波光司 ●ロゴ&カバーデザイン／益子典子+ベイブリッジ・スタジオ ●カバーイラスト／藤田和日郎

24



からくりサーカス

Le Cirque de Karakuri

藤田和日郎（ふじたかずひろ）

★前巻までのあらすじ★

黒賀村を訪れた才賀勝は、そこで、勝に脳を〈転送〉したという父・貞義のとんでもない企みを知る。

そして、勝を貞義と決めつける黒賀村の人形使いに捕らえられた勝は、他界したはずの祖父・正二と再会。

ところが、貞義への恨みから勝を殺そうとする正二は、自分の記憶が溶けた「生命の水」を飲ませる。

それは、大きな謎が明かされてゆく長い記憶の旅だった。

江戸時代後期の長崎。少年時代の正二＝正二郎はオランダ人医師・白銀と出会い、秘密の師弟関係を結ぶ。

それから25年後、遊女として身を隠す人形破壊者・アンジェリーナと運命的な出逢いをする……!!

からくりサーカス24　目次

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■藤田和日郎■

CIRCUS~FINAL ACT
ACT 15
THE BURNING BROTHEL



SFX THROUGHOUT CHAPTER: BELLS CLANGING; MEN YELLING, WOMEN SCREAMING; PANICKED RUNNING




ガヤガヤ
I'M OFF!
H-HOLD ON, SEN-SEI!
YOU'LL WIND UP DEAD IF YA DON'T GET OUTTA HERE ...!!
WHAT...? HE WENT INTO TH' BACK PARLOR WHILE HE WAS GETTIN' TH'FIRE STARTED!
WH-ERE'S THAT SAMU-RAI?
WH-WHERE'RE YA GOIN' ?!
I HAVE NO NEED OF AN ESCORT.
I'M AFRAID I MUST DECLINE.
WELL, ANYWAY, OIRAN, LEMME GUIDE YA OUT. COME THIS WAY, QUICK!
わあああ
キャー
PLEASE HELP THE OTHERS INSTEAD.


わあぁぁぁぁ
ガン ガン ガン
SOU-NA-NUSHI! WHERE'S THAT MIS-CREANT RES-PON-SIBLE FER ALL THIS?!
OH, SEN-SEI!
HANG IN THERE, BUN-JUU-ROU-SAMA.


WH-ERE'S YER WELL ?!
WHAT ARE YOU PLAN-NING?

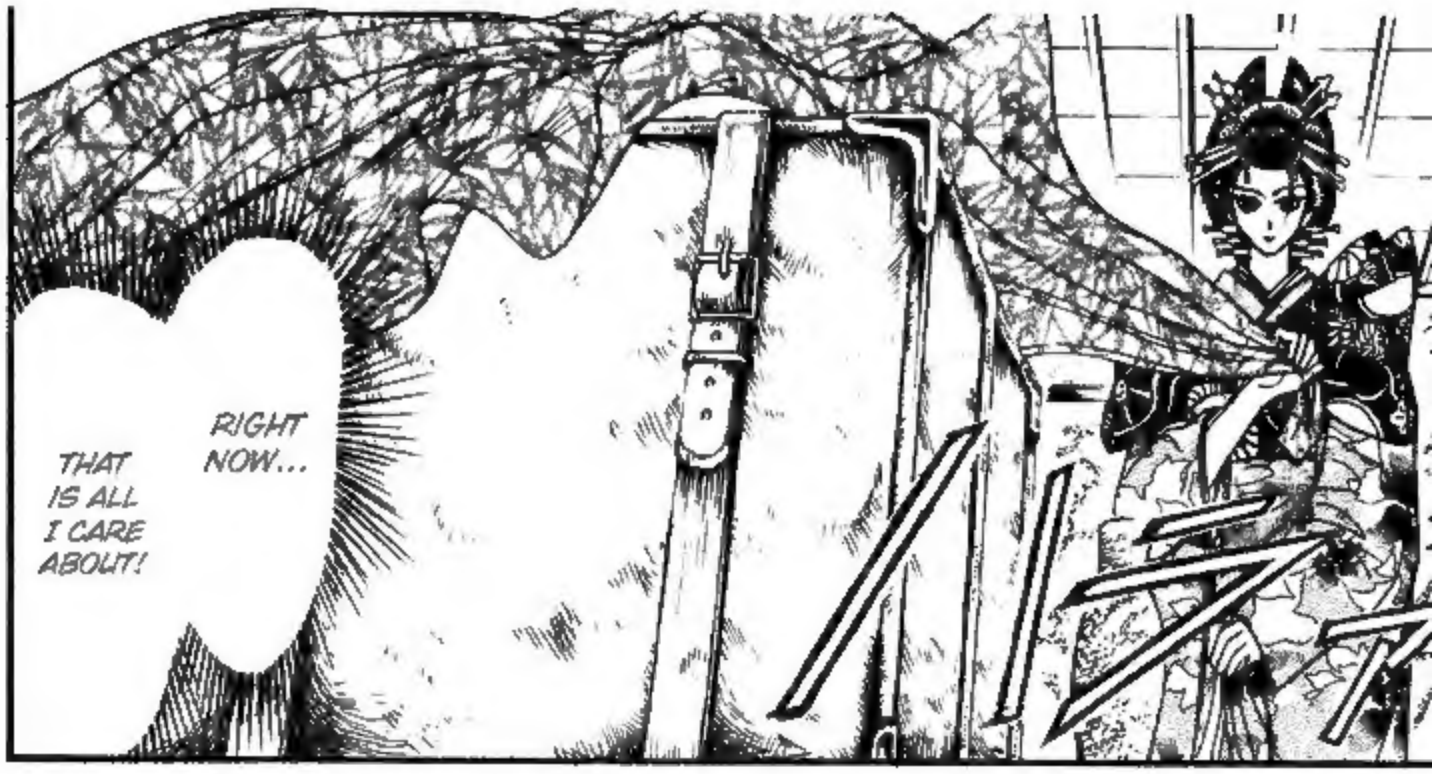

I SEE.
THAT WAY. HE DRAGGED THE OIRAN AND HER APPRENTICE OVER WHERE THE FIRE'S AT ITS STRON-GEST!

3


I'D BE ABLE T'FALL IN LOVE WITH A WOMAN THEN.
WHAT IS HE?


WENT DASHING OFF THE MOMENT HE HEARD THERE WERE HOSTAGES. BUT WHY?
THAT MAN...
HE'S JUST A DOCTOR... AND AN ORDINARY HUMAN...


わあぁぁ
きゃあぁぁ


RIGHT NOW...
THAT IS ALL I CARE ABOUT!

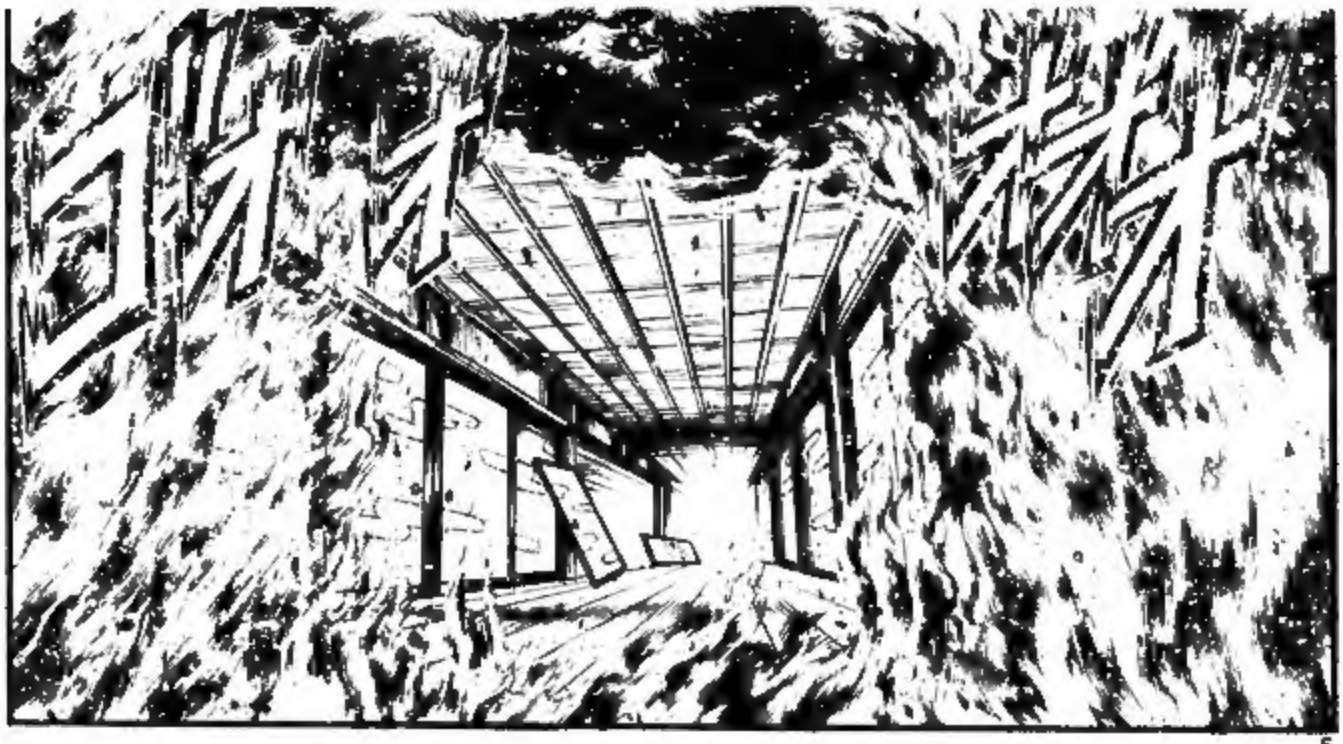

AN' YA AIN'T EVEN ARMED RIGHT NOW! IF YA GO CHARGIN' IN, HE'LL JUST TURN IT AROUND ON YA!
THE MAN YER UP AGAINST IS SAID TO BE A MASTER IN SOME SCHOOL OR ANOTHER.
BUT, SENSEI ...!
I'M OFF!

4


SEN-SEI ...!


SAVIN' PEOPLE IS A DOC-TOR'S JOB.


SORRY FER THE TROUBLE, BUT TAKE CARE'A THESE, PLEASE.
ほの


オオオ


オオオ
DIE WITH ME, KOGIKU...
HEH HEH HEH HEH ...


NO... PLEASE... LET US GO...!
I AIN'T GOT A CENT T'MY NAME.
I GOT NOTHIN' LEFT...


N-
NO...!
C'MON, NOW, KOGIKU... LET'S BURN TO-GETHER...
OH, NO. AIN'T NO GETTIN' OUTTA THIS.


THE HELL'RE YOU?!


RIGHT!
TAKE THE OIRAN AN' GIT OUTTA HERE!


I'M A DOC-TOR!
GOT A PROB-LEM WITH THAT ?!


I'M TOO SCARED...! I CAN'T STAND UP...!
ONEE-SAN, HURRY!


I'LL GO 'N' GET SOME-ONE T' HELP!
I'LL...
A DOCTOR, HUH?! AIN'T NOBODY CALLED FER YER SERVICES! STAY OUTTA THIS!
HELL NO!!


Y'AIN'T HALF BAD, BUT IT'S ALL OVER FOR YA NOW. JUST LIKE ME...
FWE-HEHEHEH! WERE YA PLANNIN' T'GET BY JUST HITTIN' MY SWORD WITH THAT SCABBARD?


THE WAY THIS IS GOIN' I WON'T HAVE TIME T' GET THE WOMAN OUTTA HERE!
TCH... HE'S A BETTER SWORDSMAN THAN I EXPECTED. AN' THIS FIRE'S SPREADIN' FAST, TOO!
OH, YEAH ...?
WHAT NOW?!
SFX: KOFF KOFF
.....
WHAT... WHAT DO I DO NOW...?
ゴホ ゴホ
OH, NO! CAN'T GIT OUT THIS WAY...
SOME-ONE'S... COMIN' THIS WAY?
WHA ...




T-TOUNO-
DAYUU!


ARE YA CHALLENGIN' ME WITH SEKISHUUSAI'S SWORDLESS CAPTURE TECHNIQUE? THAT IT?
WHAT'S UP, DOC?

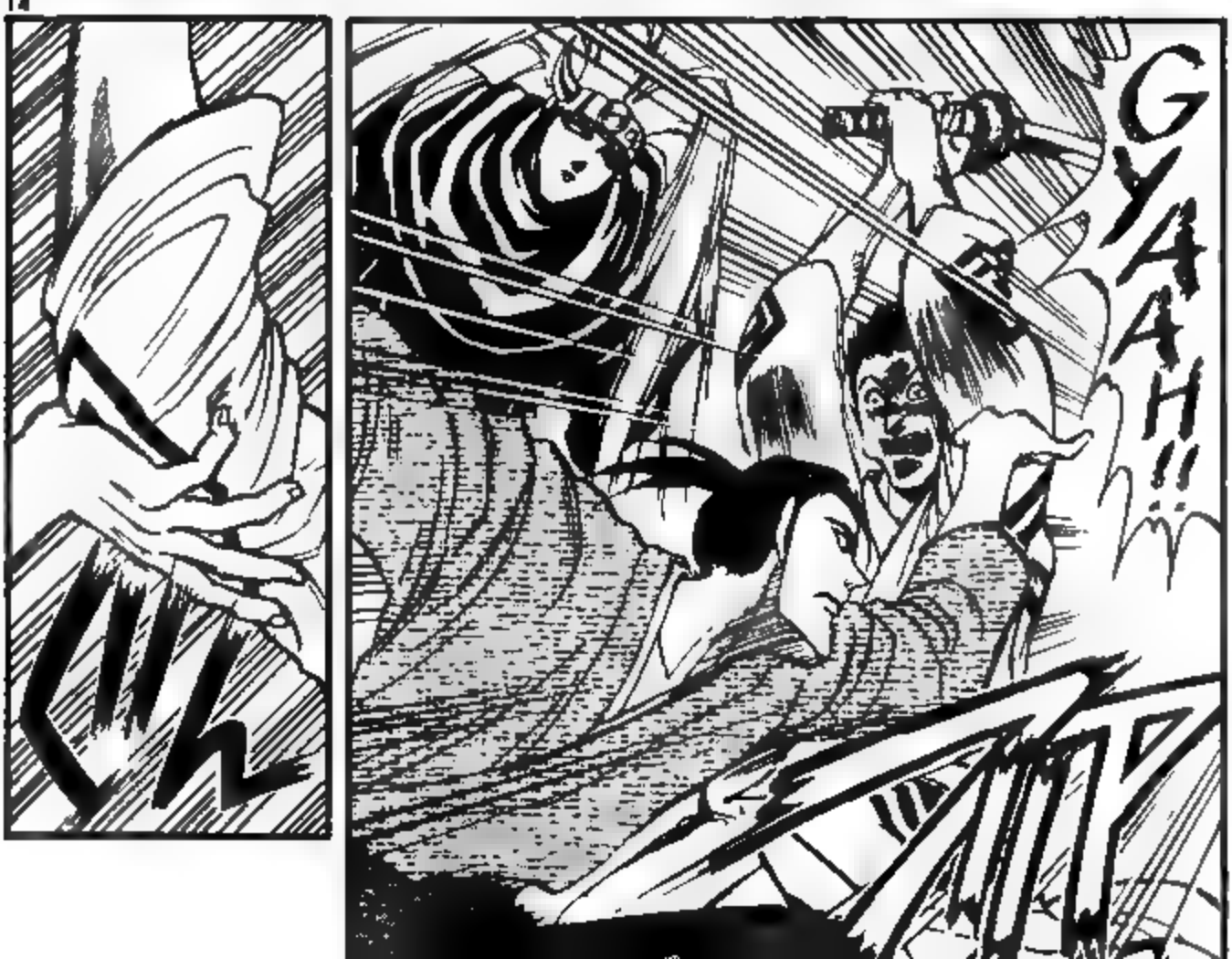

LET'S GO, THEN!!


!

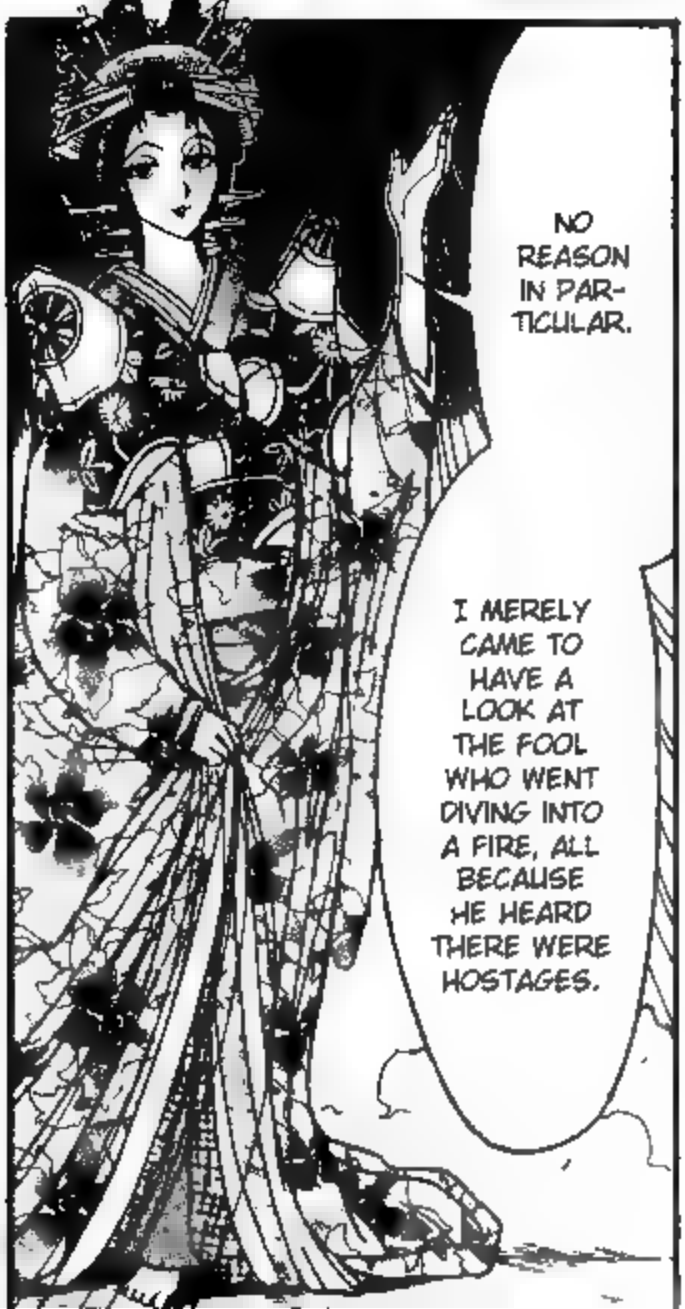

WH-WHAT THE HELL?!

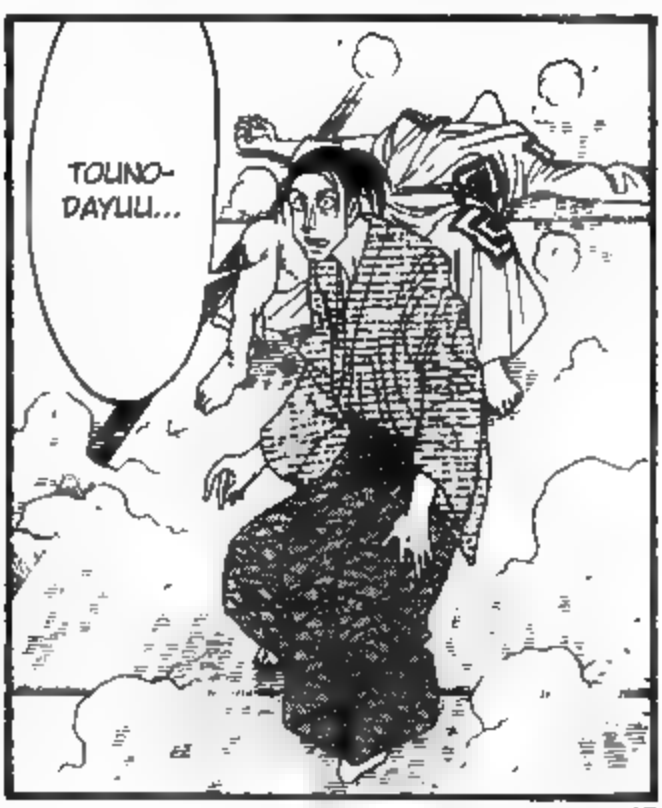



MAKE YOUR MOVE! NOW!
A PUPPET?!
...THAT PUPPET— IT'S...!


GYAAH!!!




NO REASON IN PARTICULAR.
I MERELY CAME TO HAVE A LOOK AT THE FOOL WHO WENT DIVING INTO A FIRE, ALL BECAUSE HE HEARD THERE WERE HOSTAGES.


TOUNO-DAYUU...


WHY... WHY'RE YOU...


HM ...?
THIS IS BAI YIN-SENSE'S PUPPET, AIN'T IT?!
THIS... THIS PUPPET HERE ...
WHERE DIDJA GET THIS?
HMPH! WELL, SORRY, BUT THAT AIN'T WHAT I WAS ASKIN' ABOUT!


THIS IS TH' PUPPET I BUILT ...
BACK WHEN I WAS A KID, WITH BAI YIN-SENSEI.


AH ...
WHAT DID YOU JUST ...
WH ...
17
THEY'RE COMING BACK!
AH... IT'S THAT MAN...! HIS MEMORIES, DISSOLVED IN MY BLOOD...



SFX: CRACKING



SFX: SNAP

18

SFX: CLATTER



translation by funnuraba tumblr com

NOTES

By the Edo period, there were no more battles being fought, and the status of samurai was largely ornamental. Samurai were limited to an income provided by the lord they served, and forbidden from owning land. Unlucky individuals were relegated to very low-level duties and subsistance pay, and *rounin* with no master at all generally fell into poverty and a life of gambling or crime. The samurai in this chapter presumably took to dueling the pain in the red light district, and decided to take along his favorite evening companion on his way out.

pg. 7: The younger girl is a *kamuro* (禿), an attendant/servant to the older *oiran* who's also learning the trade by observation. She won't finish her apprenticeship until she's an adult, but she has probably been sold into the red light district by parents with financial troubles. Courtesans were legally sanctioned by the Japanese government at this point (though confined to certain areas), and the profession did not carry the same stigma as the Western concept of prostitution. There were women in the red light district who provided sex exclusively, but the more expensive ones were considered legitimate entertainers whose repertoire included sexual activities. Despite the lesser social stigma compared to other countries, women and girls were still trafficked and sold into the trade, and the majority were never able to save up enough money to leave it.

pg. 11: Yagyuu Sekishuusai Munetoshi, a famous *kenjutsu-ka* (practioner of swordsmanship) who devised a method of disarming an opponent with his bare hands called *mutou-dori*.

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Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.



ACT 16
RESOLUTION AMIDST THE FLAMES



1






第16幕
炎の中の覚悟
I HAVE ARLEQUIN WITH ME.
YES


THIS CEILING ...
IT IS AND SO...
SO THAT'S ITS NAME.
ARLE-QUIN...
SURE IS SOME-THIN'


IS A SIMPLE MATTER.

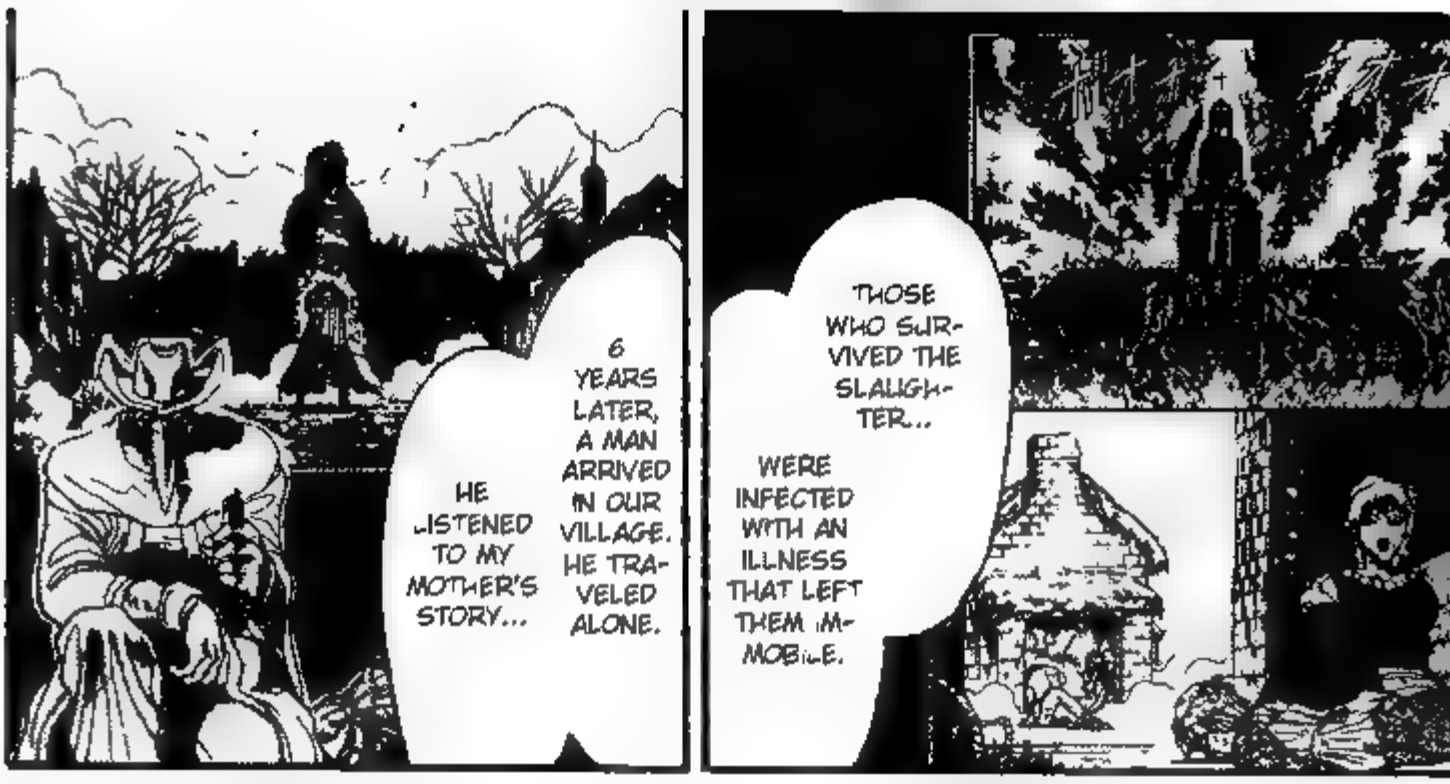

I... I GOT JUST ONE QUESTION FOR YA.
HOW'D THIS PUPPET GET INTA YOUR HANDS?

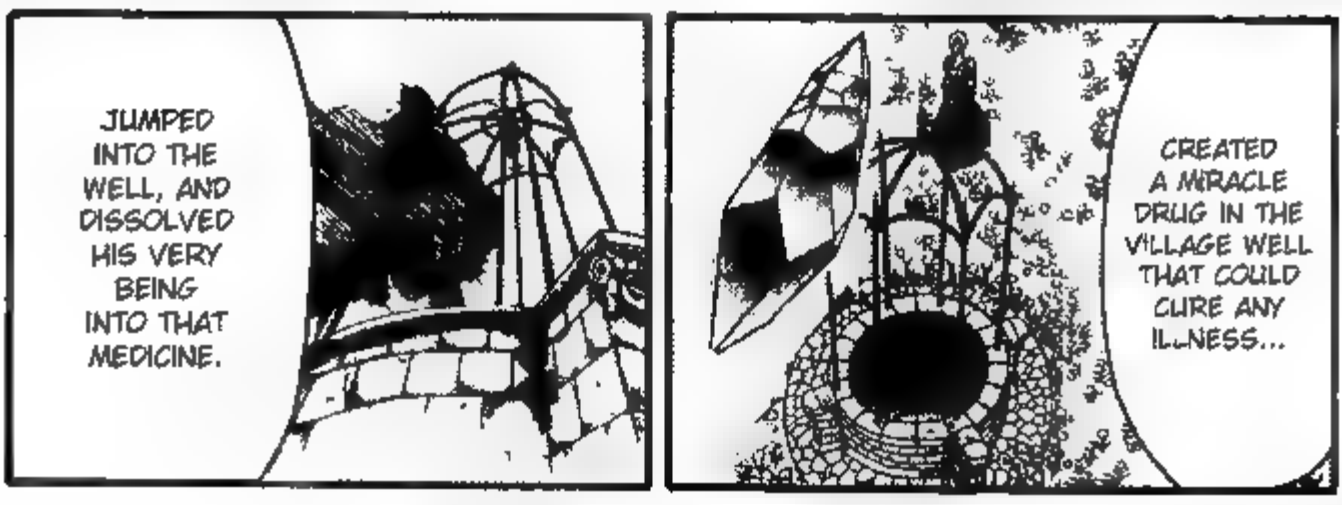

27 YEARS AGO, MY VILLAGE IN FRANCE WAS ATTACKED BY DOLLS THAT MOVED ON THEIR OWN.
HUH...?! SAY WHAT?!

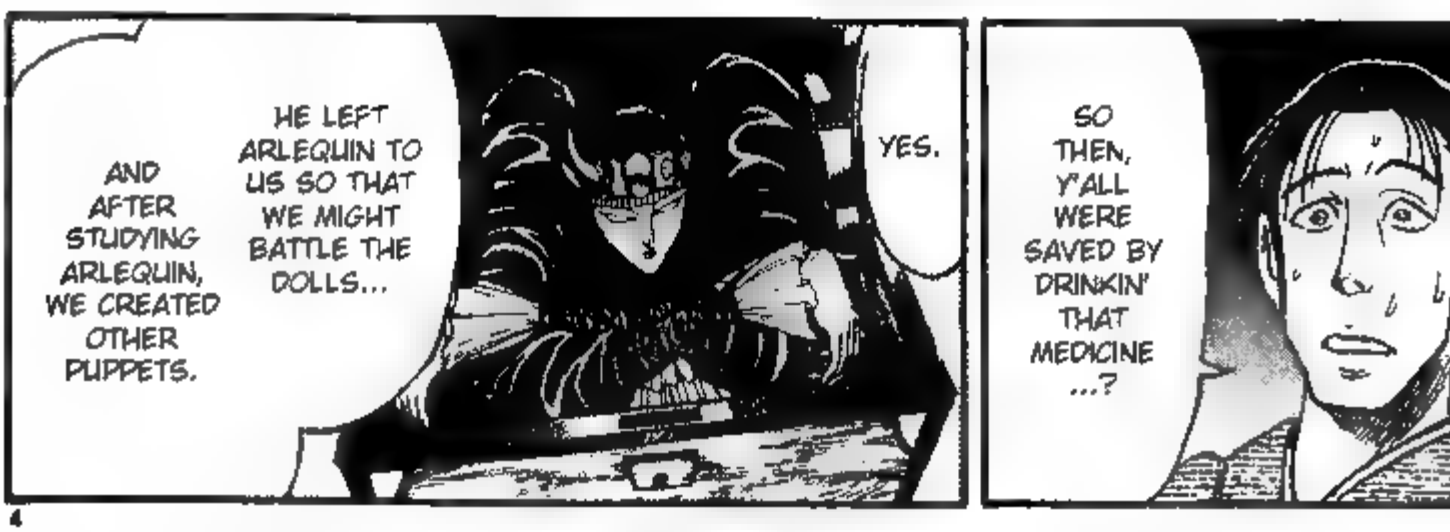

IT'S BECAUSE I AM HIS REINCAR-NATION.


I MEAN, BAI YIN-SENSEI'S THE ONE THAT BUILT IT, AIN'T HE?
Though I helped a bit too.


I SUPPOSE I OWE YOU THE TRUTH.


6 YEARS LATER, A MAN ARRIVED IN OUR VILLAGE. HE TRAVELED ALONE.
HE LISTENED TO MY MOTHER'S STORY...
THOSE WHO SURVIVED THE SLAUGHTER...
WERE INFECTED WITH AN ILLNESS THAT LEFT THEM IMMOBILE.

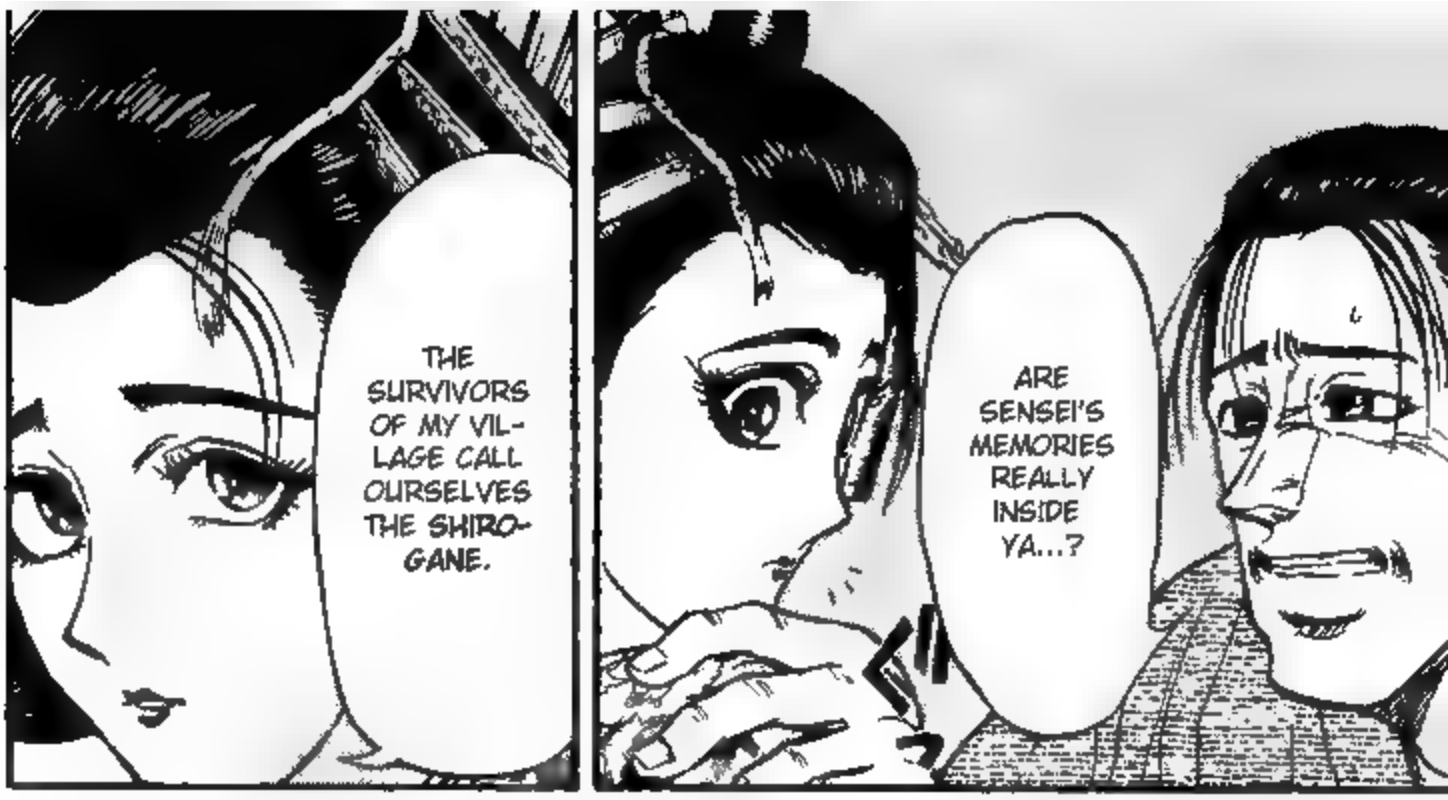

JUMPED INTO THE WELL, AND DISSOLVED HIS VERY BEING INTO THAT MEDICINE.
CREATED A MIRACLE DRUG IN THE VILLAGE WELL THAT COULD CURE ANY ILLNESS...


AND AFTER STUDYING ARLEQUIN, WE CREATED OTHER PUPPETS.
HE LEFT ARLEQUIN TO US SO THAT WE MIGHT BATTLE THE DOLLS...
YES.
SO THEN, Y'ALL WERE SAVED BY DRINKIN' THAT MEDICINE ...?


WHY DID HE NEED T' DISSOLVE HIMSELF INTA THAT MEDICINE ...?
BUT ...
THEN... THEN...
THAT MAN WAS... BAI YIN-SENSEI...


YOU MAY FIND IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE, BUT THAT MEDICINE, AQUA VITAE, CAN REVIVE A PERSON'S MEMORIES WITHIN THOSE WHO DRINK IT.
WHAT?!
BECAUSE HE WISHED TO HAVE HIS REVENGE ON THE DOLLS... THROUGH US, THE VILLAGERS.
THAT MAN DISSOLVED HIMSELF INTO THE MEDICINE WITH THE INTENTION OF LEAVING ALL THAT BEHIND FOR OUR USE.
KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENCE AND MEDICINE, VARIOUS SURVIVAL METHODS, AS WELL AS ENCYCLOPEDIC KNOWLEDGE OF THOSE DOLLS THAT MOVE ON THEIR OWN.
AFTER DRINKING AQUA VITAE, KNOWLEDGE CAME FLOODING INTO OUR HEADS...
YA DON'T MEAN... THAT EVEN WITHOUT HEARIN' SOMETHIN' ...?


I REMEMBER YOU KNOCKING OVER HIS BAG, AND YOUR OLDER BROTHER DYING FROM TORTURE, AS WELL...
IT WAS ONLY NATURAL THAT WHEN I FIRST SAW YOU, I FELT WE HAD MET BEFORE, LONG AGO.
I RE-MEMBERED YOU FROM THE MEMORIES INSIDE ME, THOSE OF THE MAN DISSOLVED ...
IN THE AQUA VITAE.
SENSEI'S GONE, THEN...
... SENSEI ...


THE SURVIVORS OF MY VILLAGE CALL OURSELVES THE SHIROGANE.
ARE SENSEI'S MEMORIES REALLY INSIDE YA...?


...SENSEI...
THE NAME I GAVE HIM...
SHIROGANE...


ATTACK




BOY HOWDY, THAT REALLY IS SOMETHIN'! IF YA OPEN UP A PATH LIKE THAT WE'LL BE ABLE T'GET OUTTA HERE.
YES, THAT IS TRUE. HOW-EVER...
YOU...
WELL, I MYSELF WOULD LIKE TO SAVE THE OIRAN AND HER ATTENDANT.
GOT A PROBLEM?
BUT THE MAN IS THE ONE WHO SET THE FIRE IN THE FIRST PLACE, IS HE NOT?
LEAVING HIM HERE SEEMS A FITTING PUNISH-MENT FOR HIS DEEDS.
PUNISHMENT... IF YA LIVE FOR REVENGE, YEAH, I GUESS THAT'S HOW YA *WOULD* SEE IT.

"HOW DOES IT FOLLOW THAT A PERSON SHOULD BE HARMED FER DESTROYIN' SOMEONE'S POSSES-SIONS?"

BUT BAI YIN-SENSEI SAID THIS, TOO...

C'MON, NOW. THAT AIN'T THE RECIPE FER A PURTY SMILE.

THINKIN' ALL THE TIME ABOUT THE FITTIN' PUNISH-MENT FER CRIMES ...

8 SFX: *POINTEDLY IGNORING*

I KNOW THAT I FELT AT EASE.

TELLING HIM MORE THAN I HAD EVER TOLD ANY-ONE.

I CANNOT UNDERSTAND IT. BUT I FOUND MYSELF TELLING HIM THE SECRET OF THE SHIRO-GANE...

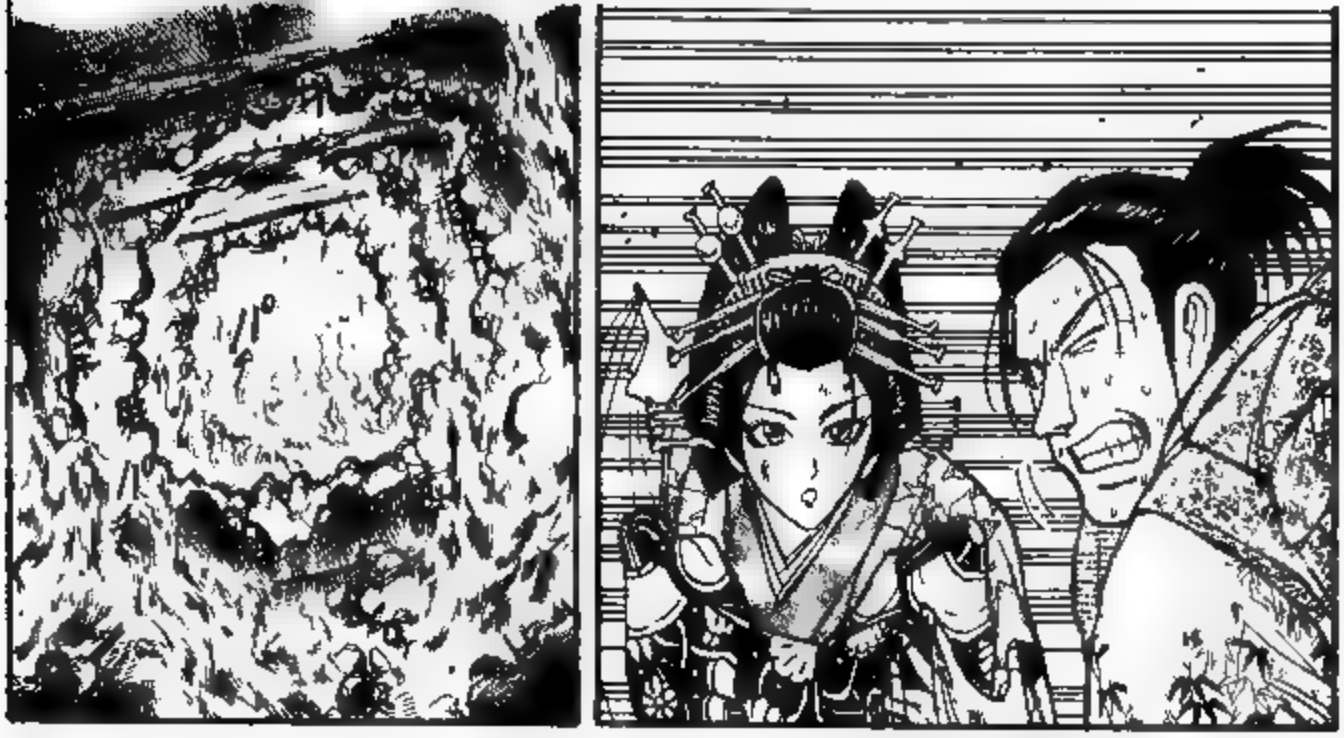
THIS MAN IS NO FOOL... YET HE BEHAVES SO IRRAT-IONALLY.

BUT WHEN I WAS TALKING TO HIM...

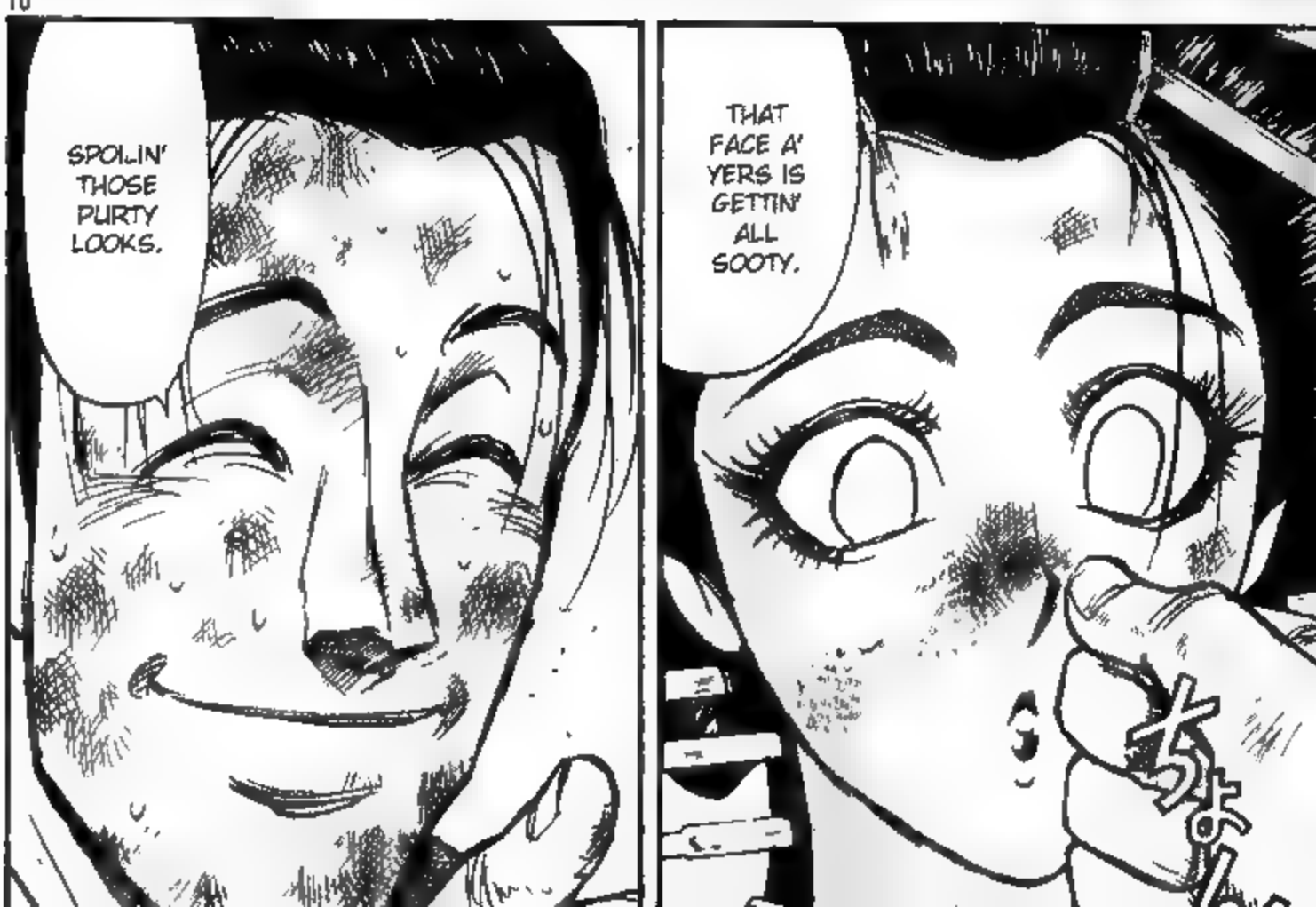
I DO NOT KNOW WHY IT WAS...


VERY WELL.
C'MON. I KIN HANDLE THE LOAD ...
SO YOU MAKE US A PATH.
AR-LE-QUI-IIN!






THAT ASIDE ...
WE GOTTA HAVE ARLEQUIN OPENIN' UP A PATH.
I'LL MAKE DO ON MY OWN.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? SHALL I CARRY SOMEONE WITH AR-LEQUIN?
huh
huh


SPOILIN' THOSE PURTY LOOKS.
THAT FACE A' YERS IS GETTIN' ALL SOOTY.


SMILE MORE.
I WANT TO SEE THIS MAN ...


JGH!
IF WE KIN JUST GIT THERE FROM HERE ...
HERE WE GO. WE OUGHTTA BE ABLE T'GET OUT OVER THERE.



12


HRNNH!


WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ESCAPE EVEN WITH ARLE-QUIN ...
THE FIRE'S ENOR-MOUS ...


SHOU-JIROU!


C'MON...
LET'S GO LOOK FER ANOTHER PATH.
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH! THIS AIN'T SOMETHIN' TO LOSE HEART OVER.
13
!
THEN LET'S GO LOOK FER THE SECOND WEAKEST PART.
IT'S NO USE...
IT'S ONLY OVER ...
ONCE WE GIVE UP, AN-GELINA.
THERE IS NO OTHER PATH. WE WERE AIMING FOR THE WEAKEST PART OF THE FIRE!

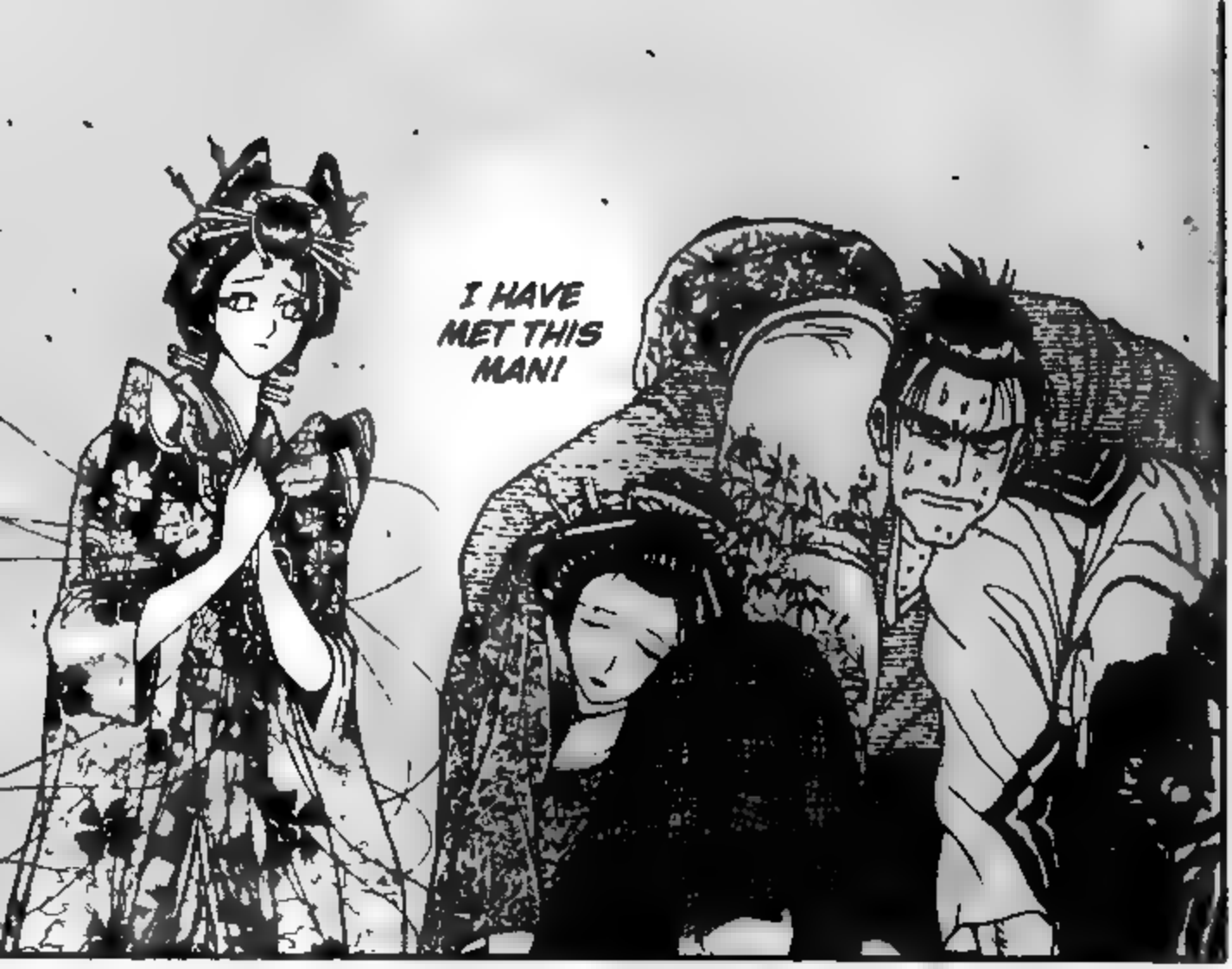

THERE MUST BE SOMETHIN' ALONG THE PATH WE CAME FROM!


I WANTED TO MELT AWAY AND DISAPPEAR IN THIS COUNTRY...


WHAT ARE YOU TELLING ME TO DO WITH MY LIFE, IF I ABANDON EVERYTHING I HAVE HERE?!
MY MOTHER CAST ME OUT.

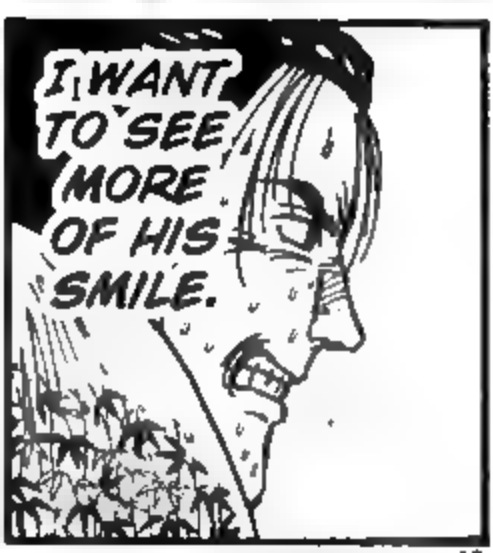
14


BUT NOW...


I HAVE MET THIS MAN!


A BRIGHT, BEAMING SMILE OF MY OWN.


IF IT WERE AT ALL POS-SIBLE, I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW HIM...


I WANT TO SEE MORE OF HIS SMILE.


NO ONE ELSE HAS EVER MADE ME FEEL THIS WAY BEFORE!
MOTHER...!


ARLEQUIIIIN!
LES ARTS MARTIAUX!


FUFU... BUT, SHOUJIROU-SAN, I WILL NOT DIE. AND YOU WILL SEE ME AS AN AYAKASHI... A MONSTER. YOU WILL COME TO FEAR ME.


PLEASE STAND BACK. I MAY BE ABLE TO MANAGE IF I MUSTER EVERY LAST OUNCE OF ARLEQUIN'S POWER.
WHAT'S GOIN' ON?


COUNT TO THI—? WAIT, FROM WITHIN THE *FIRE?!* DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT! YOU'LL NEVER SURVIVE!
COUNT TO THIRTY, AND THEN START RUNNING. I WILL CREATE A PATH FROM WITHIN.


COURANT!
OUR AC-QUAIN-TANCE SHALL END HERE!...
AN-GE-LI-NA!






BUT THAT MATTERS NOT!


UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL I ALLOW YOU TO PERISH.

translation by funnuraba tumblr com

NOTES:

Angelina has dropped the Yoshiwara dialect at this point.

Several lines of dialogue appear in flashback in this chapter, but they do not match the lines that actually appeared in those scenes. This is not a translation error; the lines are in fact slightly different.

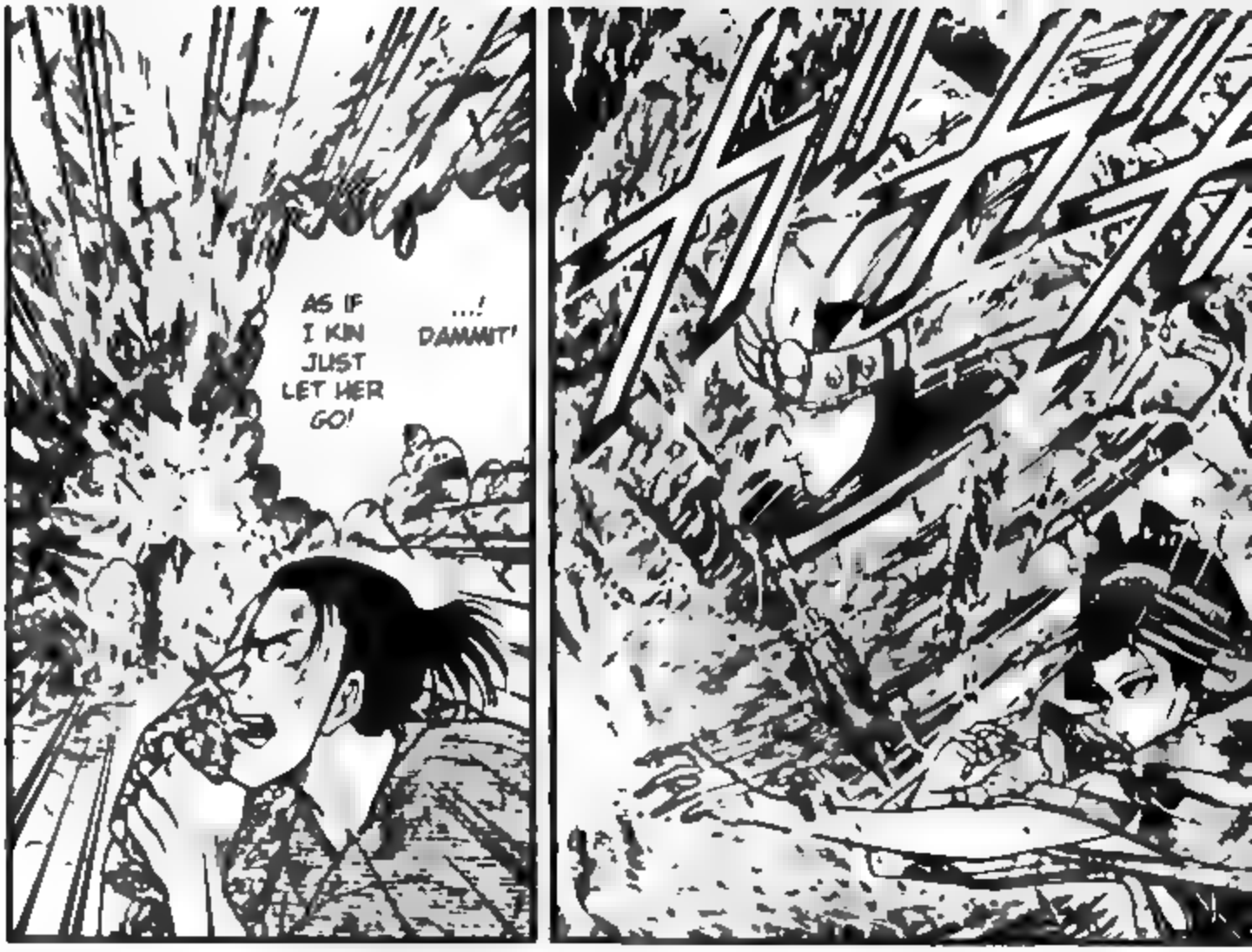
In October of 2016, Kodansha USA will be releasing the first volume of Fujita's seinen series **Black Museum. The Ghost and the Lady!** The second and final volume will follow in December. If you're enjoying *Karakuri Circus*, this is a great opportunity to show your support for the creator and show that there's a market for his work over here! Full disclosure: his shounen series are published through Shogakukan, (i.e., Viz) so buying this release is not a direct pipeline to licenses for them. However, this is the first of Fujita's manga *ever* to be licensed in English since he debuted in 1989. Sentai Filmworks will also be releasing their dub and subs of the *Ushio and Tora* anime at some point, which is another great way to show your support. Please remember that each chapter of this manga represents an entire work week for Fujita and his assistants, and they deserve to be paid for their work in whatever way possible!

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I WILL NOT BURN.
FROM NOW ON, I AM ANGELINA.
DON'T DO IT, TAYUU! YOU'LL BE BURNED T'DEATH!
ACT 17 第17幕
RAIN 雨
TA-YUU ...!


AS IF I KIN JUST LET HER GO!
...! DAMMIT!


SORRY! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!








WHOA! PIECES OF TH'BUILDIN' ARE FLYIN' OUT!
WHAT THE ...?!

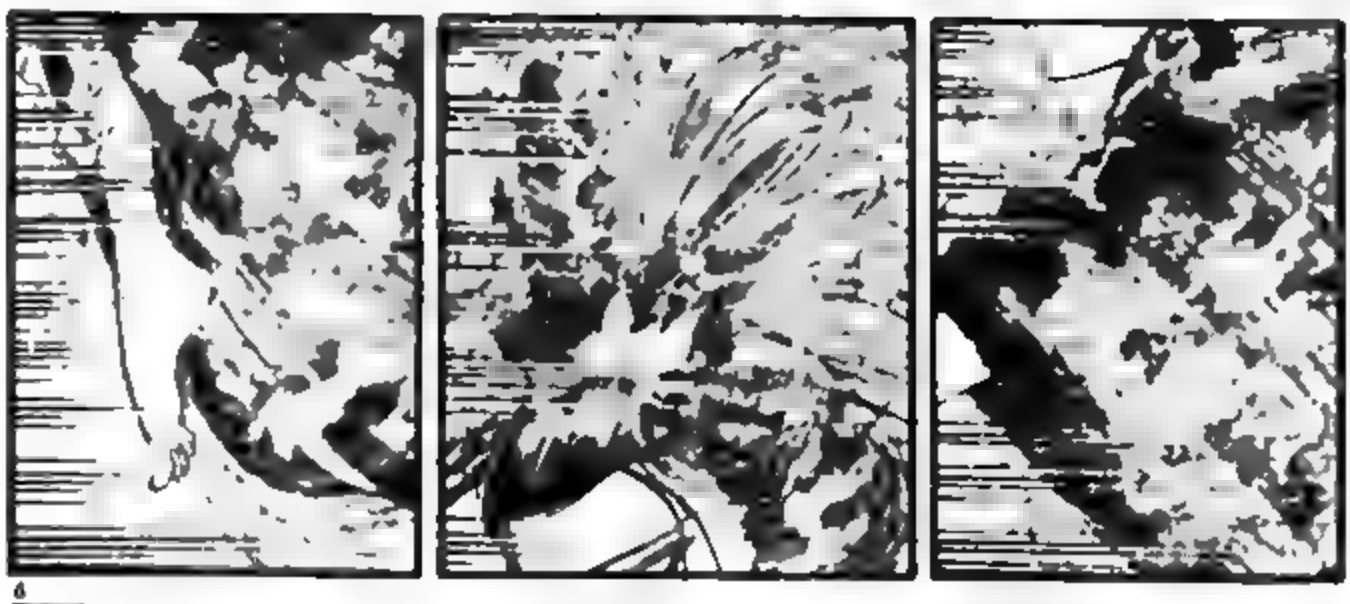
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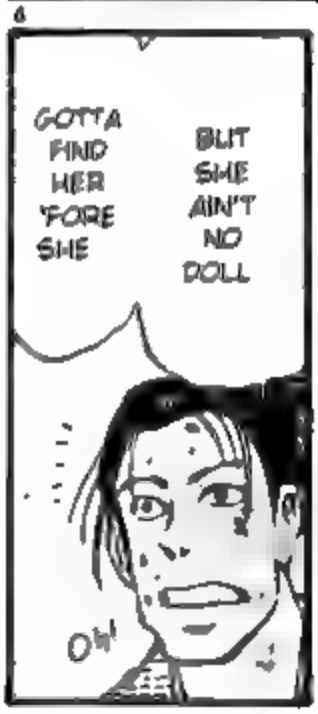

YOU IDIOT!!! TOONO IS THE AYA-KASHI-DAYUU!
THEY MUSTA GOT CAUGHT IN TH' FLAMES. THEY MUST BE...

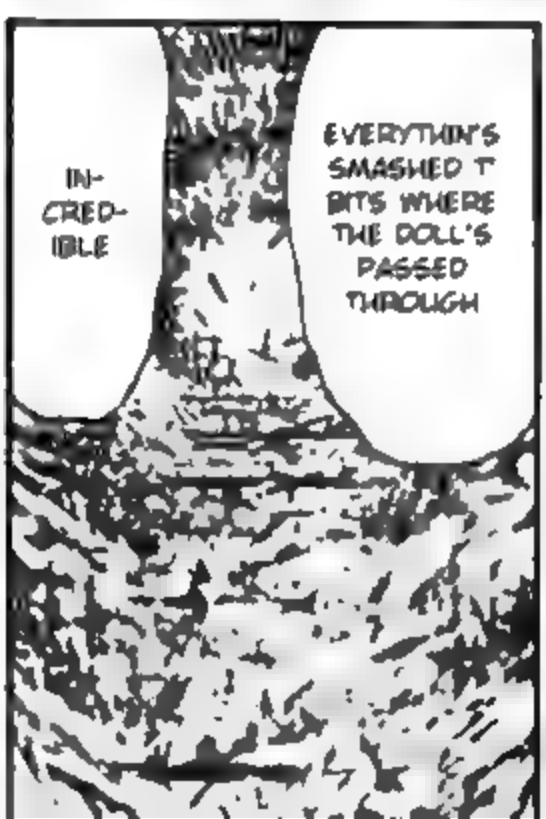

AIN'T NO ONE SEEN 'EM NO-PLACE...
WHERE ARE THE DOCTOR AND TOONO-DAYUU?!
SOU-NA-NUSHI, THIS AIN'T SAFE! PLEASE STEP BACK!


AYA-KASHI ...
CAN NEVER DIE.



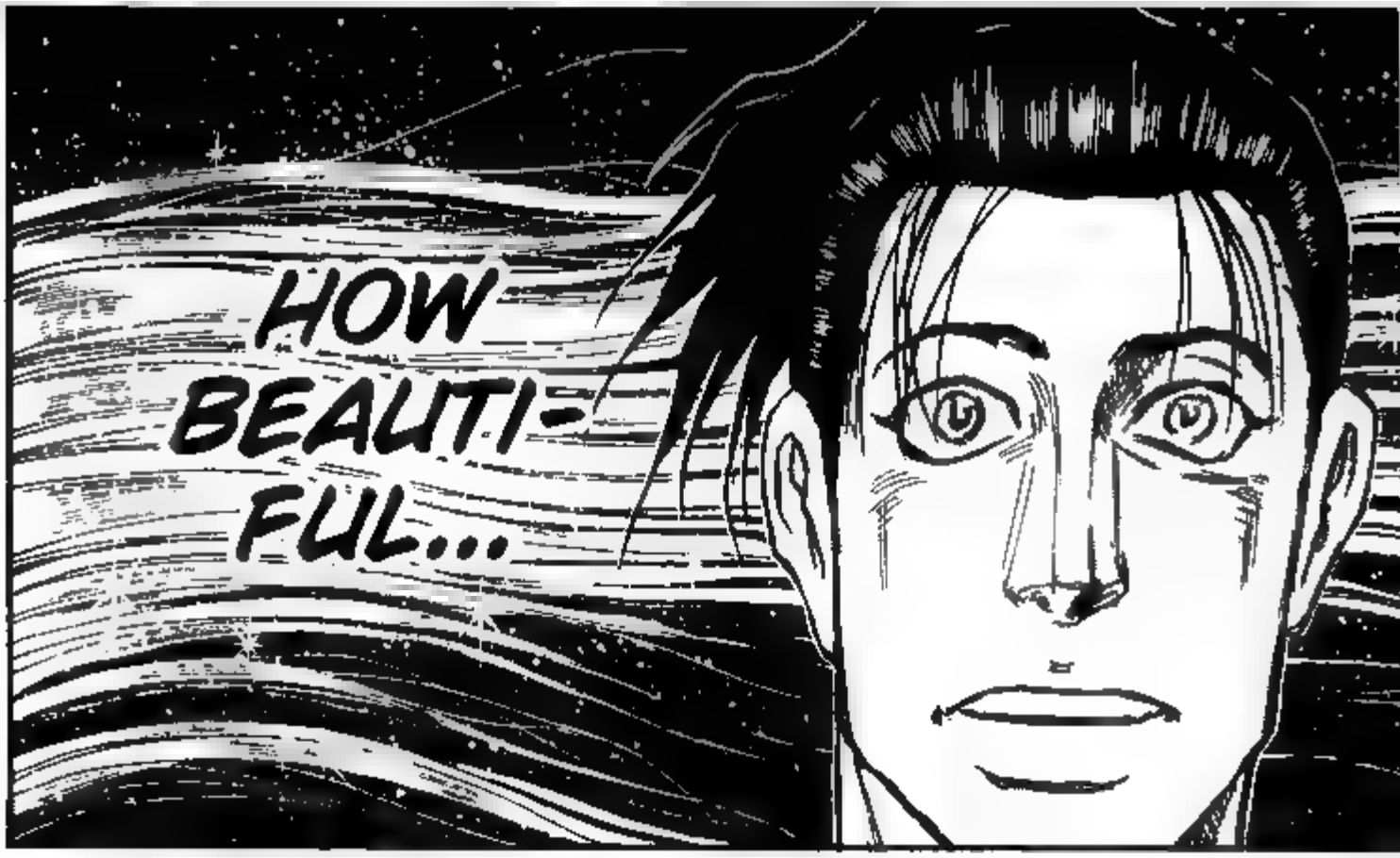



GOTTA FIND HER 'FORE SHE
BUT SHE AIN'T NO DOLL
OW


IN-CRED-IBLE
EVERYTHIN'S SMASHED T' BITS WHERE THE DOLL'S PASSED THROUGH

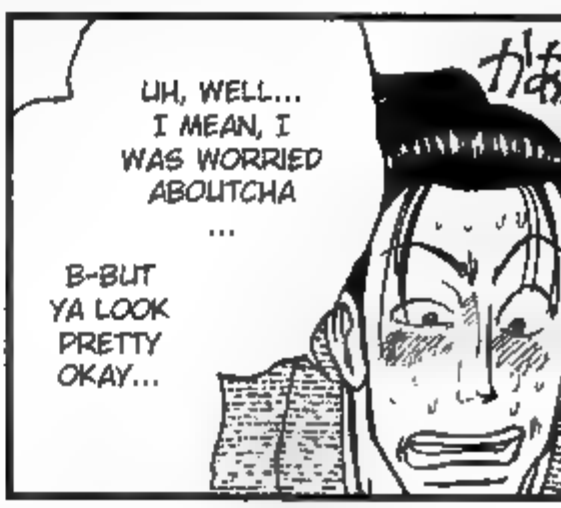

TAYUU...!


SHOU-
JIROU...

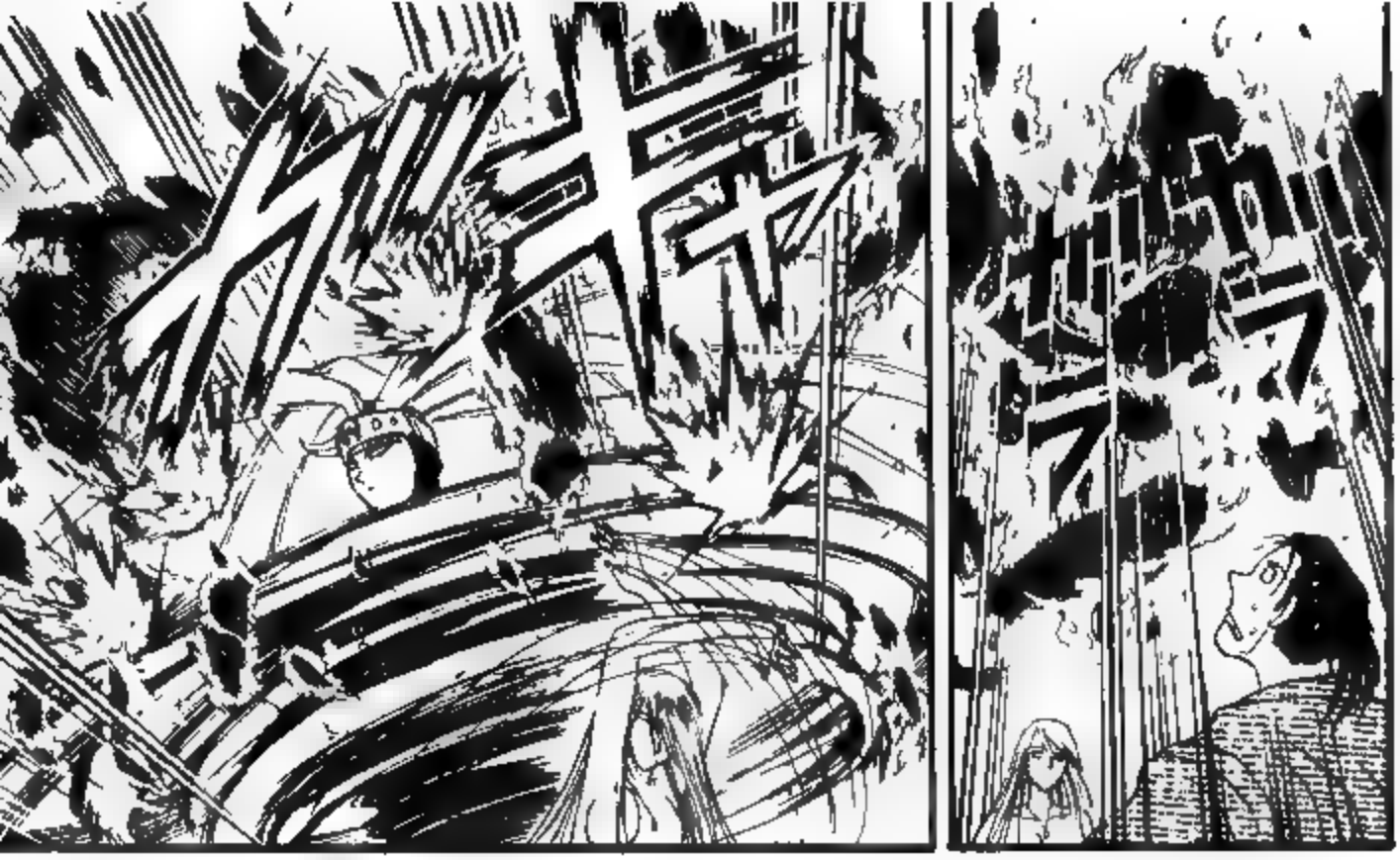

HOW BEAUTI-
FUL...

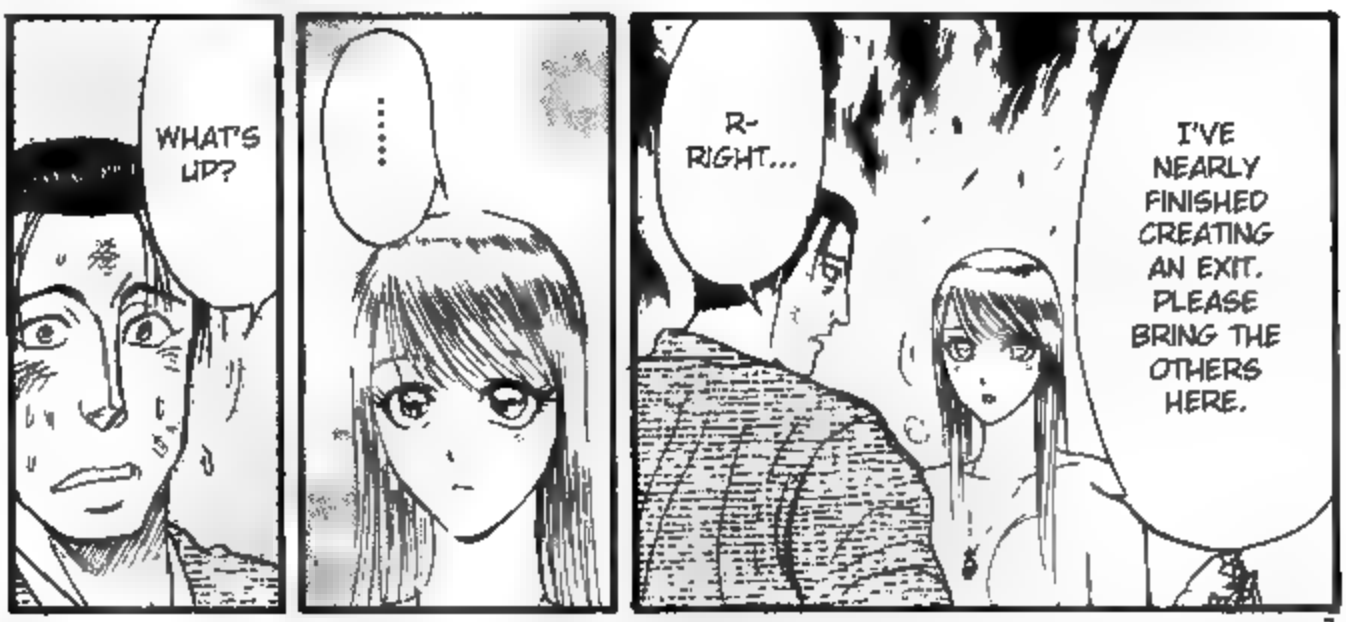

WHY ON EARTH ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?


TH-THANK YOU...


UH, WELL... I MEAN, I WAS WORRIED ABOUTCHA ...
B-BUT YA LOOK PRETTY OKAY...


Not t mention nekkid


ガシャーン
ガラガラ


WHAT'S UP?
.....
R-RIGHT...
I'VE NEARLY FINISHED CREATING AN EXIT. PLEASE BRING THE OTHERS HERE.

7


I'D BE ABLE T LOVE A WOMAN IF I HAD ME ONE A THOSE!
WHAT USE WOULD YOU MAKE OF A BODY INCAPABLE OF DYING FOR ALL ETERNITY?
OH...?


...NO ONE ELSE HAS EVER GIVEN ME THAT KIND OF ANSWER.


WE WILL NOT MEET AGAIN...
HUH . ? NOT MEET AGAIN? WHAT'S THAT S'POSED T' MEAN?
BUT YOUR SMILE ...
IS MY VERY FAVO-RITE!


THAT SMILE ...
THAT WAS TH' FIRST HUMAN SMILE I'VE SEEN FROM HER.
WHY WOULD SHE SAY WE WON'T EVER MEET AGAIN?!
BUT WHY?!
T' SAVE US, SHE'S GOIN' ALL TH' WAY OUTSIDE T' CREATE A PATH...
WHICH MEANS ...
A FOREIGN COUNTRY...?! AS A FOREIGN WOMAN SHE AIN'T ALLOWED T' SET FOOT ON JAPANESE SOIL!!
SHE CAME HERE T' BLEND IN AN' HIDE HERSELF AS A COURTESAN IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY!
9
!
SO SHE KIN JUST KEEP ON DOIN' THAT, THEN! WHY BOTHER SAYIN'...


WH-WHAT IN...? THAT SILVER HAIR...
AN' SILVER EYES TOO
A FOR-EIGNER
IT'S A FOR-EIGNER
THAT GAL'S A FOR-EIGNER!



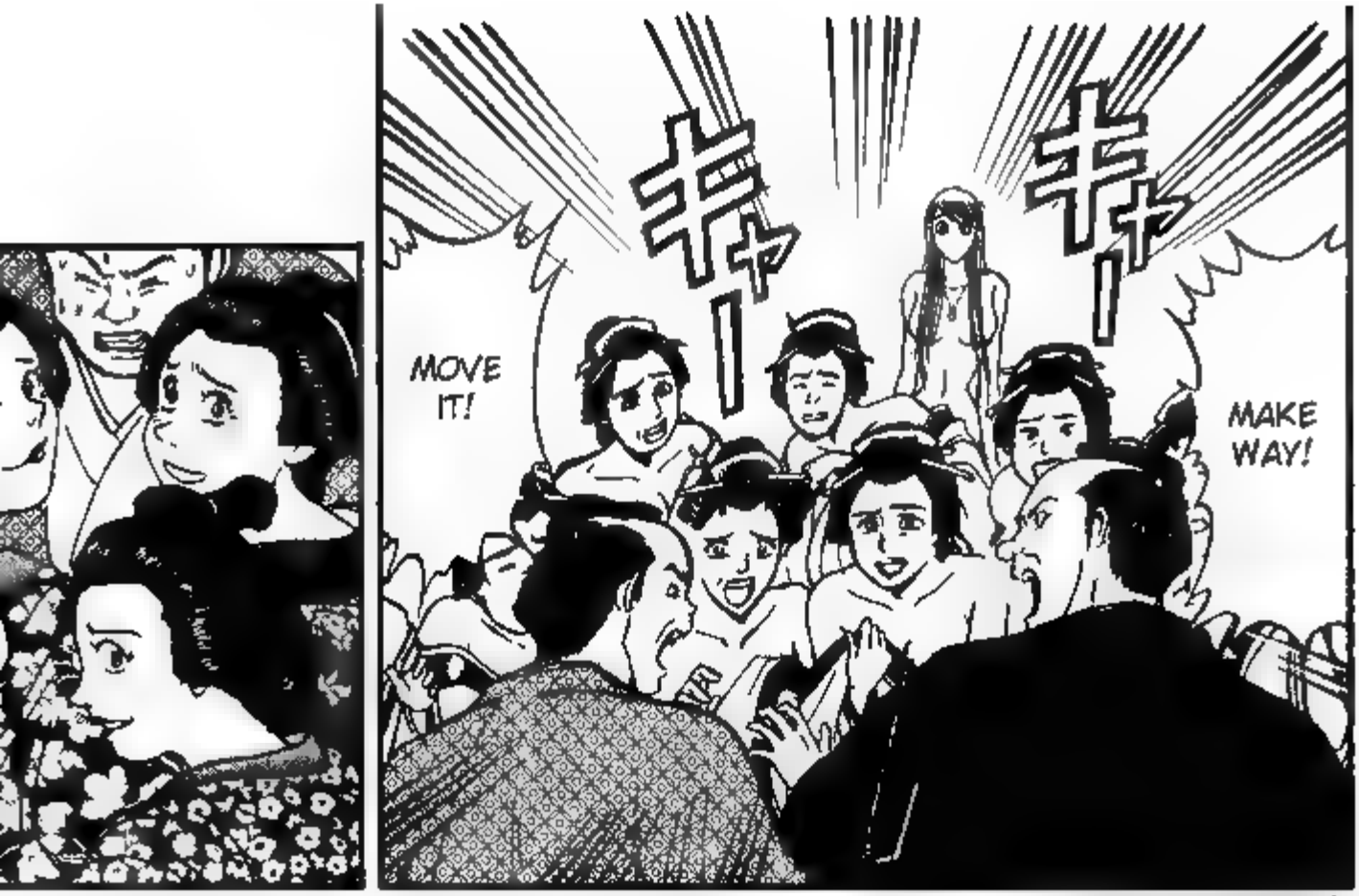

YOU THERE! YOU'RE UNDER AR-REST!
NO! ENTERIN' JAPAN WITHOUT PERMISSION MEANS...
A DEATH SENTENCE! TAYUU, GET OUTTA HERE...!


YOU STAND BEFORE IZAWA HAN'EMON, STEWARD OF HONDA-SAMA, THE MAGIS-TRATE OF NAGA-SAKI!
COME ALONG QUIETLY, FOREIGN WOMAN! YOU AND THAT FOREIGN PUPPET!

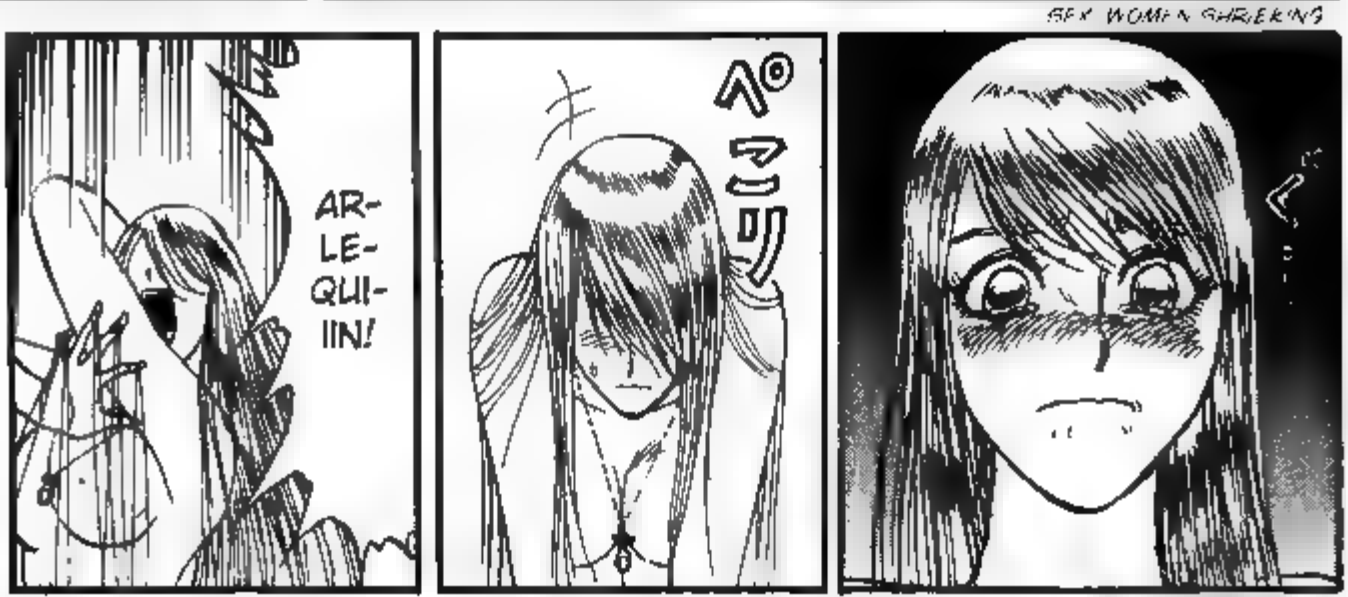

WH-WHAT'S ALL THIS?! GET OUT OF THE WAY!
PLEASE HELP US! OUR CLOTHES GOT BURNED UP!
OFFICER, THE FIRE! THE FIRE...!




EEEK ...!!



SFX WOMEN SHRIEKING



SFX GULP BOW

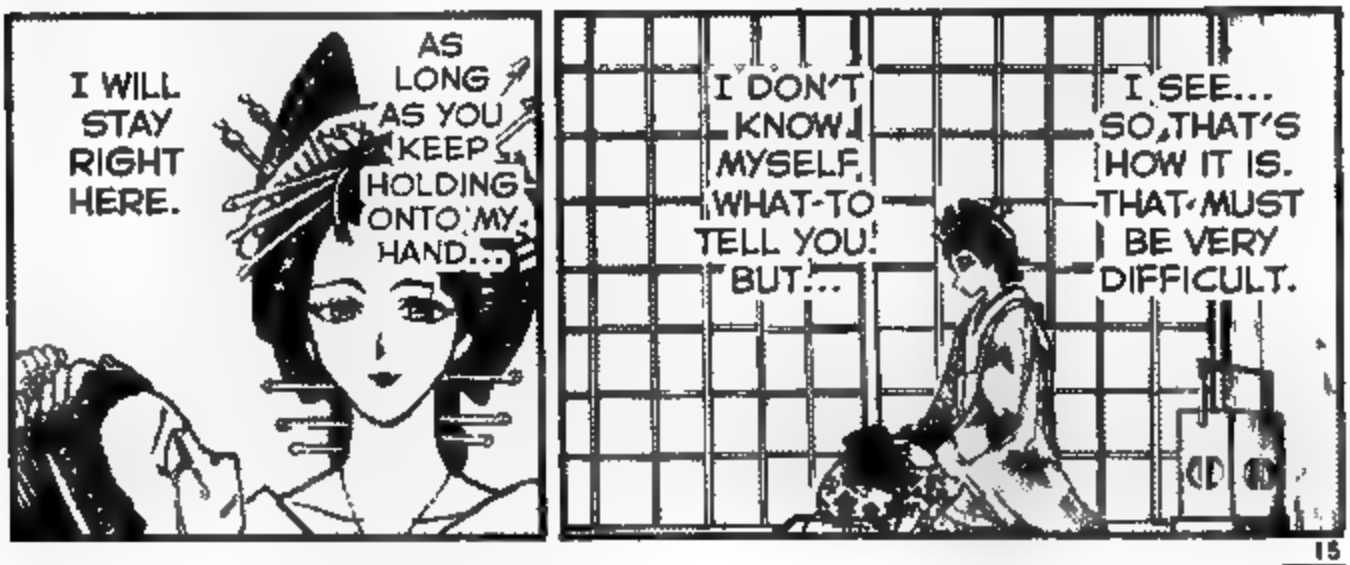



SOU-NA-NUSH!
AN' YER... THE AT-TENDANT FROM JUST NOW!
SEN-SEI...
AFTER HER! DON'T LET HER GET AWAY!


HUH?
SENSEI, PLEASE HELP ANGELINA.
THAT WAY!


SHE'S KINDER'N ANYONE ELSE, TOO.
BUT TO-ONO... ANGE-LINA...
AND THEN I REALIZED... SHE'S MORE ALONE THAN ANY OF US...
IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHIN' T'HELP HER, SHE'LL BE ALL ALONE IN THIS COUNTRY.
I WAS THINKING ABOUT WHAT I MENTIONED EARLIER... WHY I DIDN'T ABANDON HER MYSELF...


BUT WHEN TOONO-SAMA TREATED THEIR ILLNESSES, SHE SPOKE T'THEM...
WITH NOTHIN' BUT KINDNESS.
EVERY ONE A'THOSE WOMAN OVER THERE HAS BEEN ALONE EVER SINCE THEY WERE YOUNG, FACIN' ALL KINDSA HARDSHIP ON THEIR OWN.

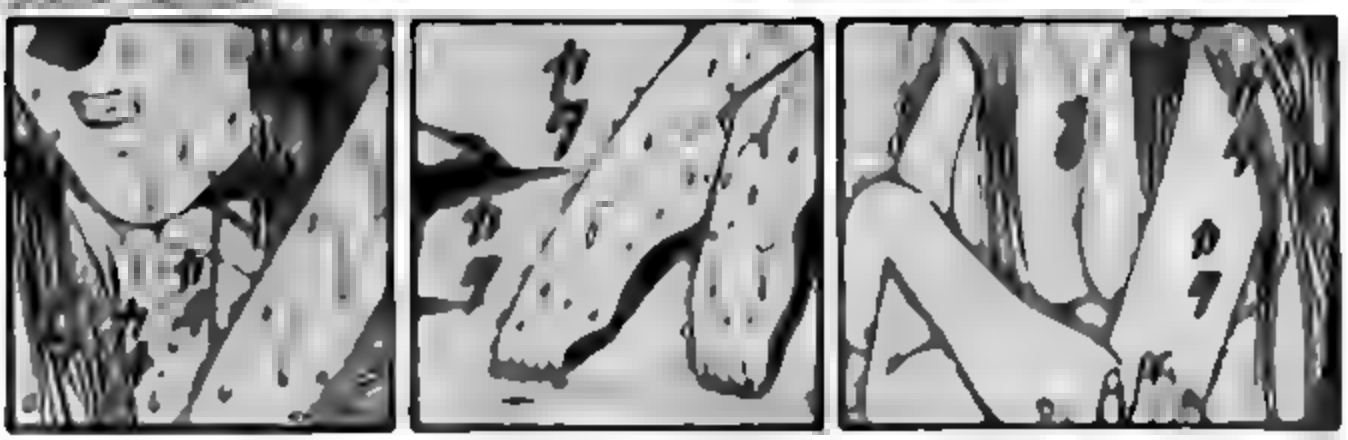

I WILL STAY RIGHT HERE.
AS LONG AS YOU KEEP HOLDING ONTO MY HAND...
I DON'T KNOW MYSELF, WHAT-TO TELL YOU! BUT...
I SEE... SO, THAT'S HOW IT IS. THAT MUST BE VERY DIFFICULT.


THAT'S WHY THE OTHER COURTESANS KEPT QUIET EVEN THOUGH THEY SUSPECTED ANGELINA MIGHT BE A FOREIGNER.
WHILE THEY WERE IN SUCH A TERRIBLE SITUATION OF THEIR OWN.
NO ONE ELSE COULD HAVE SHOWN SO MUCH KINDNESS TO OTHERS...
WE WON'T BREATHE A WORD OF IT DURING THE INVESTIGATION.
AND THAT'S WHY, SENSEI, IF YOU FOLLOW AFTER HER RIGHT NOW ...


PLEASE FOLLOW HER, SENSEI.
SHE WAS HEADED FOR A CAVE ON THE COAST WHERE I FIRST MET HER!

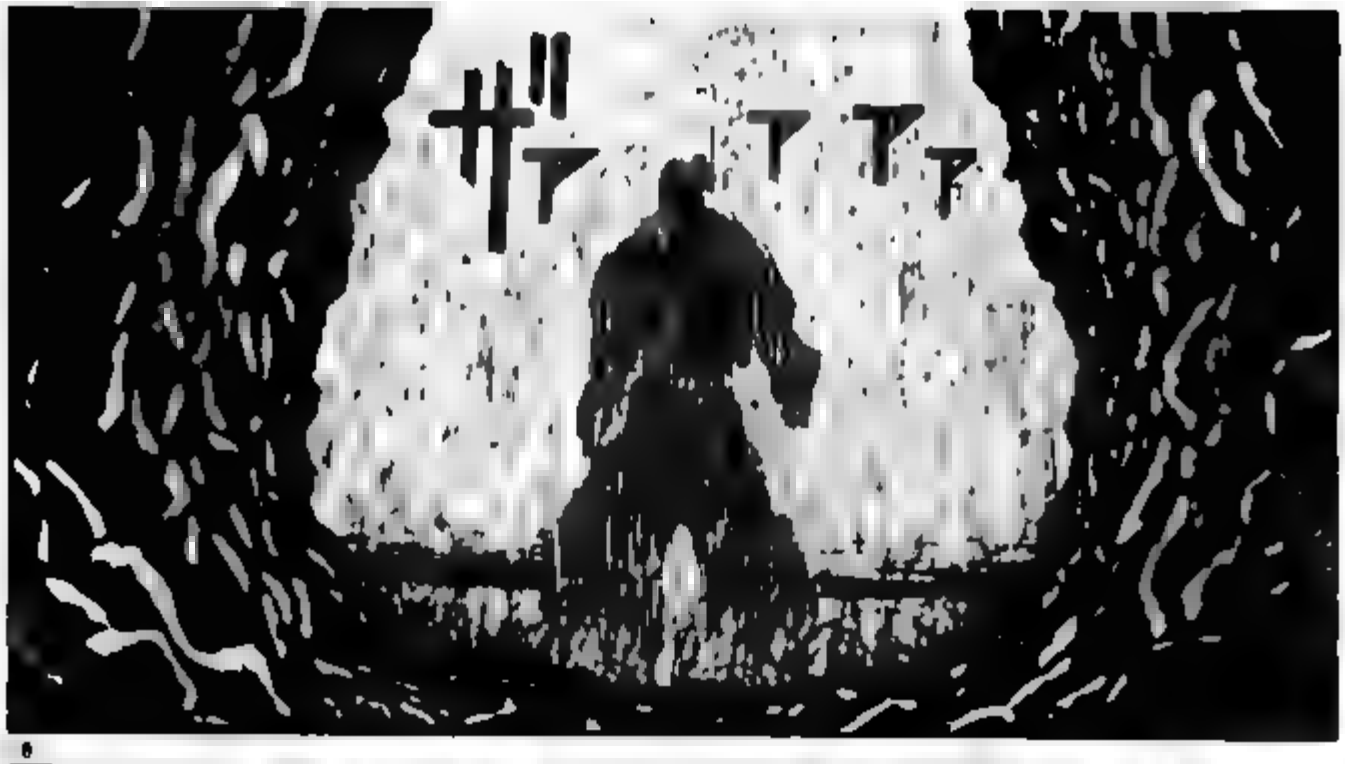

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ガタン






NARUSE SHOUJI-ROU.
SHOUJI-ROU...

translation by funnuraba tumblr com

NOTES:

Angelina dropped the Yoshiwara dialect last chapter, but in the last panel on page 8 she slips back into it for one sentence. In English Shoujirou's confusion seems odd, since he said himself that they wouldn't meet again in a previous chapter, but basically she's implying very strongly that the reason they won't meet again is related to giving up her identity as a courtesan.

In October of 2016, Kodansha USA will be releasing the first volume of Fujita's seinen series **Black Museum: The Ghost and the Lady!** The second and final volume will follow in December. If you're enjoying *Karakuri Circus*, this is a great opportunity to show your support for the creator and show that there's a market for his work over here! Full disclosure: his shounen series are published through Shogakukan, (i.e., Viz) so buying this release is not a direct pipeline to licenses for them. However, this is the first of Fujita's manga *ever* to be licensed in English since he debuted in 1989. Sentai Filmworks will also be releasing their dub and subs of the *Ushio and Tora* anime at some point, which is another great way to show your support. Please remember that each chapter of this manga represents an entire work week for Fujita and his assistants, and they deserve to be paid for their work in whatever way possible!

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ACT 18

A JOURNEY TOGETHER

AS THOUGH I WERE AN OBJECT.

MEN CAST ME ASIDE...

MOTHER...



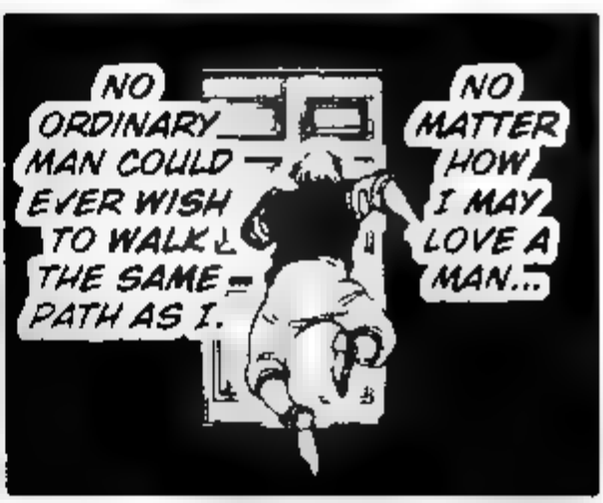








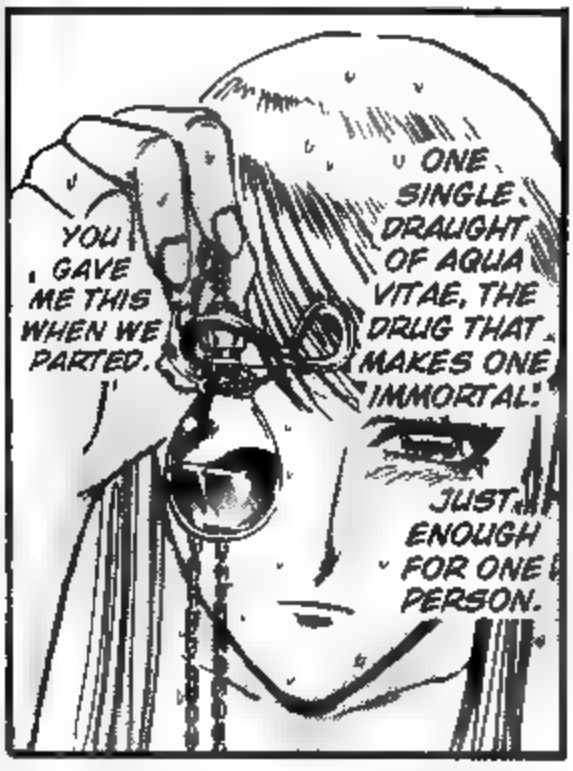

SLAP AWAY THE HAND I OFFER
ME


NO ORDINARY MAN COULD EVER WISH TO WALK THE SAME PATH AS I.
NO MATTER HOW I MAY LOVE A MAN...

第18幕 一緒の旅


ガルアアア


TO A MAN YOU BELIEVE WILL WALK BESIDE YOU FOR ALL ETERNITY.
GIVE THAT TO SOMEBODY.


YOU GAVE ME THIS WHEN WE PARTED.
ONE SINGLE DRAUGHT OF AQUA VITAE, THE DRUG THAT MAKES ONE IMMORTAL.
JUST ENOUGH FOR ONE PERSON.


HOWEVER, IF THAT TIME WERE USED FOR SOMETHING ELSE..." SOME MEANING MIGHT BE FOUND EVEN IN THESE CURSED BODIES.
SHIROGANE USE EVERY MOMENT OF OUR LONG LIVES FOR DESTROYING AUTOMATA.


NOT ANYWHERE.
THERE IS NO MAN WHO WILL WALK BY MY SIDE.


MOTHER... I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MEANT...
USE THAT TIME FOR SOMETHING ELSE...?


WHAT'LL I DO AFTER THAT? HEAD FOR THE BIG CITY, AND SPEND MY LIFE DRINKING WITH OTHER WOMEN, HAVING ALL THE FUN I WANT, TILL THE END OF TIME!
SO THAT DRUG'S THE REASON YOU'RE SO STRONG, ANGELINA? GIVE IT HERE. I'LL DRINK IT.


DO YOU STILL HAVE A HUMAN BODY?, HOW 'BOUT LETTING US HAVE A PEEK?
HEH HEH HEH, SO YOU'RE HER? THE IMMORTAL WOMAN?


I MADE UP MY MIND TO FORGET THE AQUA VITAE..
EITHER THEY FLED AS THOUGH FROM A MONSTER, OR WERE TOYING WITH ME OUT OF INTEREST IN THE AQUA VITAE
I OFFERED UP MY LIFE TO DIFFERENT MEN, BUT ONE AND ALL


AND CAME HERE, HOPING TO HIDE MYSELF AWAY AND PASS MY TIME IN A PEACEFUL PLACE


BUT TODAY I LOST THAT, TOO.


FOR-EVER
YOU MADE ME ALONE, MOTHER.
I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THAT. I WILL RESENT YOU


I'M COLD ...


I'M SO COLD, MOTHER.


JUST FORGET HIM... HE MUST THINK OF YOU AS A MONSTER, TOO, AFTER SEEING YOU FAIL TO BURN.




TO THE OF-FICIALS?! SO THEY CAN ARREST ME?!
IS IT SO YOU CAN REPORT BACK ...
COVER UP! YOU'LL CATCH YOUR DEATH SITTIN' AROUND NAKED IN THIS COLD!


HMPH!
THOUGH AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, YOU'RE JUST AN IMPERTINENT WOMAN WHO GETS IN THE WAY OF A DOCTOR'S BUSINESS.
YOU SURE ARE POPULAR DOWN IN THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT.
EVERY-BODY SENDS THEIR BEST, RIGHT ON DOWN TO NAKAYAMA-SAN.

SFX: STICKS RUBBING



8 SFX: FLAMES CRACKLING

SFX: FIRE STARTING






IF YOU TELL YOUR STORY, WE CAN GET MAD TOGETHER AND CRY TOGETHER.
BUT


NO...


HOW ABOUT IT? WANNA TRY TELLING ME THOSE FEELINGS ...
YOU'VE KEPT BOTTLED UP IN-SIDE?

9


DON'T... DON'T DO IT, ANGELINA!.. DON'T OPEN UP YOUR HEART...!


JUST LIKE THOSE OTHER MEN...
WHO PUSHED ME AWAY ...


IF IT DOES, THEN ONCE AGAIN ...
ONCE AGAIN, MY HAND WILL BE SLAPPED AWAY!


MY HEART IS BRIMMING OVER AT THOSE WORDS...



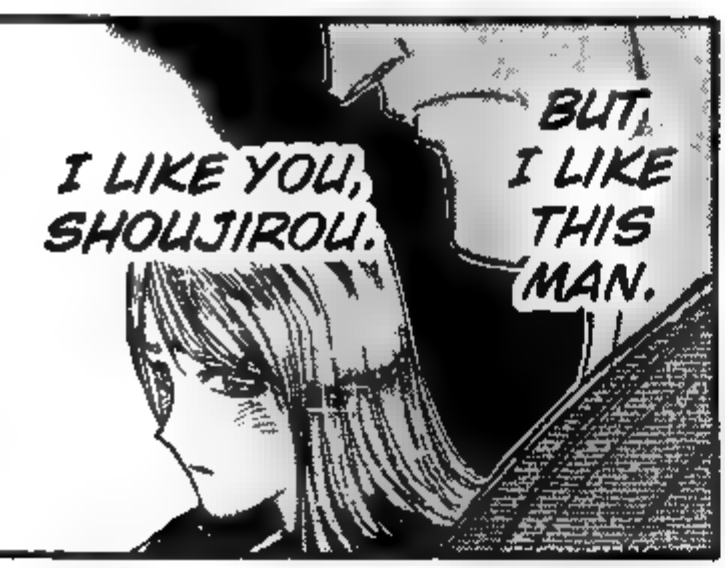









THIS CURSED BODY WILL STAY MINE, AND MINE ALONE ...
BUT I WILL NOT GIVE THIS ELIXIR OF IMMORTALITY TO ANYONE, NOW.
MY MOTHER GAVE ME THIS MEDICINE AND CAST ME OUT.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND NOW?


I LIKE YOU, SHOUJIROU.
BUT, I LIKE THIS MAN.


AND RE-JEC-TION.


THERE, YOU LITTLE FOOL... YOU'VE GONE AND TOLD HIM EVERYTHING. NEXT COMES HIS TERRIFIED FACE...


I'LL ....!
IF YOU PUSH ME AWAY, I...




YOU WERE VERY IMPORTANT TO YOUR MOTHER.
SOUNDS LIKE...


BUT... SHE SENT ME AWAY!
WHAT?
.....
THE ONLY WAY TO SET YOUR IMMORTAL DAUGHTER FREE...
IS TO GIVE HER SOME WAY TO CREATE A HUSBAND TO WALK BY HER SIDE.
NO PARENT WOULD SEND THEIR OWN CHILD AWAY WITHOUT SOME REASON.
YOUR MOTHER WAS DELIBERATELY CRUEL SO SHE COULD RELEASE YOU FROM A SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY.
YOUR OWN PATH.
GO AND WALK...
パチ パチ
BUT YOUR DAUGHTER IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN FIND THE MAN WHO TRULY LOVES HER.
SO YOUR MOTHER GAMBLED ON THAT HOPE. ALL SHE COULD DO FOR YOU WAS GIVE YOU THE MEDICINE.


MOTHER ...
YOU SEE?
OH ... OH ...!


.....
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU... WHERE TO?


IF YOU GET IT...
THEN LET'S BE OFF.
ぽん
ぽん


NA-GASAKI MEN...
ARE VERY PUSHY!
YOU CAN'T STAY IN NAGASAKI NOW THAT YOUR SECRET'S OUT. YOU'VE GOTTA SET OUT ON A JOURNEY!
BUT YOU WON'T BE ALONE. OR RATHER, I WON'T LET YOU BE. NOT EVEN IF YOU TURN ME DOWN. YOU SHOULD KNOW...

SFX GASP

16


I'M... I DON'T FRIGHTEN YOU...?!
YOU WANT TO GO WITH ME...?
YOU...



SFX: GRIP YANK







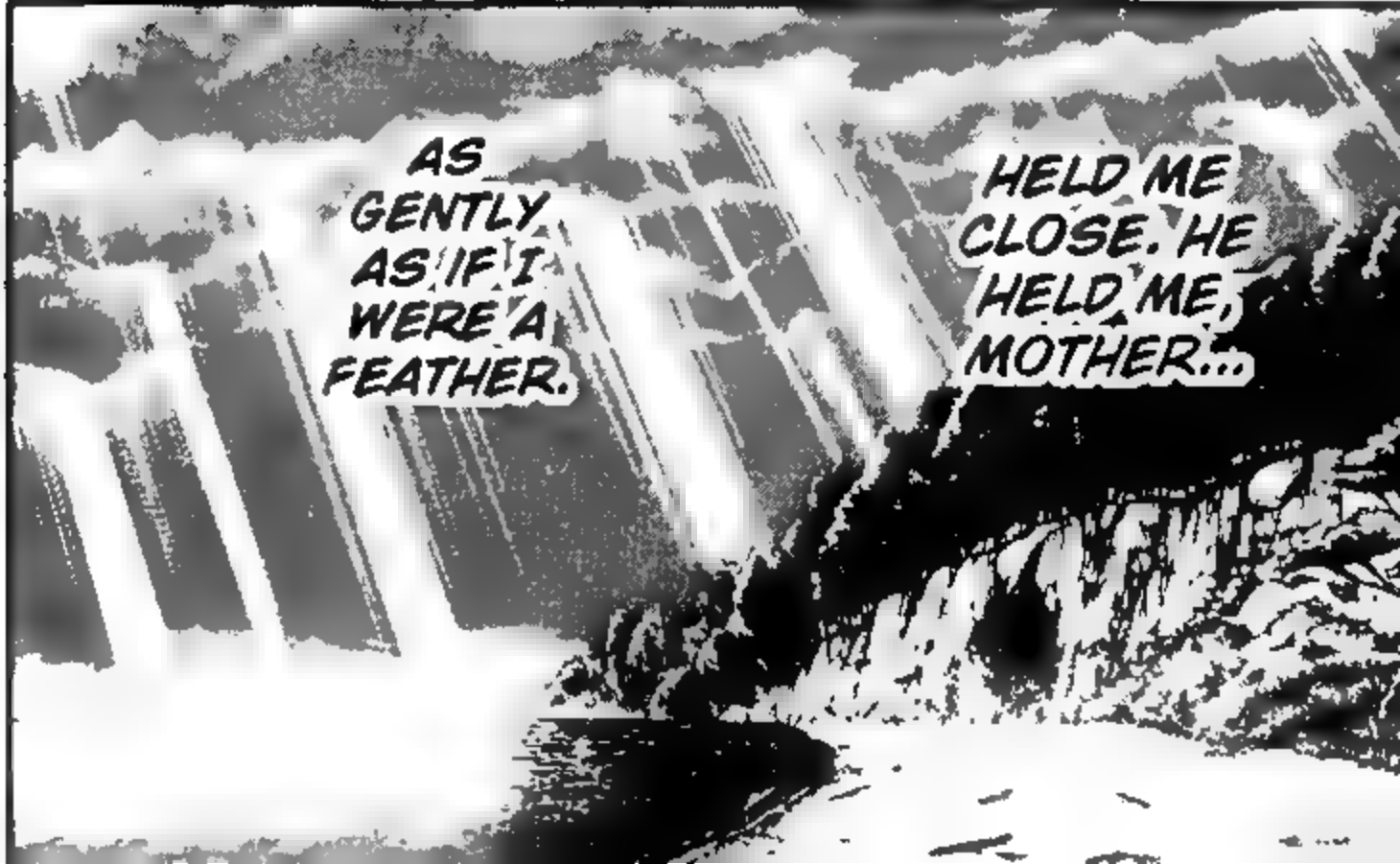

ما لا


OF LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.


YUP.
AND PAST ETERNITY, TOO. FOR ALL TIME.
THEN... THEN YOU'LL WALK WITH ME?
BY MY SIDE, FOR ALL ETER-NITY?
ぽっぽっ
ろろ


MOTHER, THIS MAN...


IF THAT TIME WERE USED FOR SOMETHING ELSE...


AS GENTLY AS IF I WERE A FEATHER.
HELD ME CLOSE. HE HELD ME, MOTHER...

translation by funnuraba tumblr com

NOTES:

Shoujirou drops his Saga-ben dialect in this chapter and continues using *watashi* instead of his usual *washi*. On page 17, he goes back to Saga-ben

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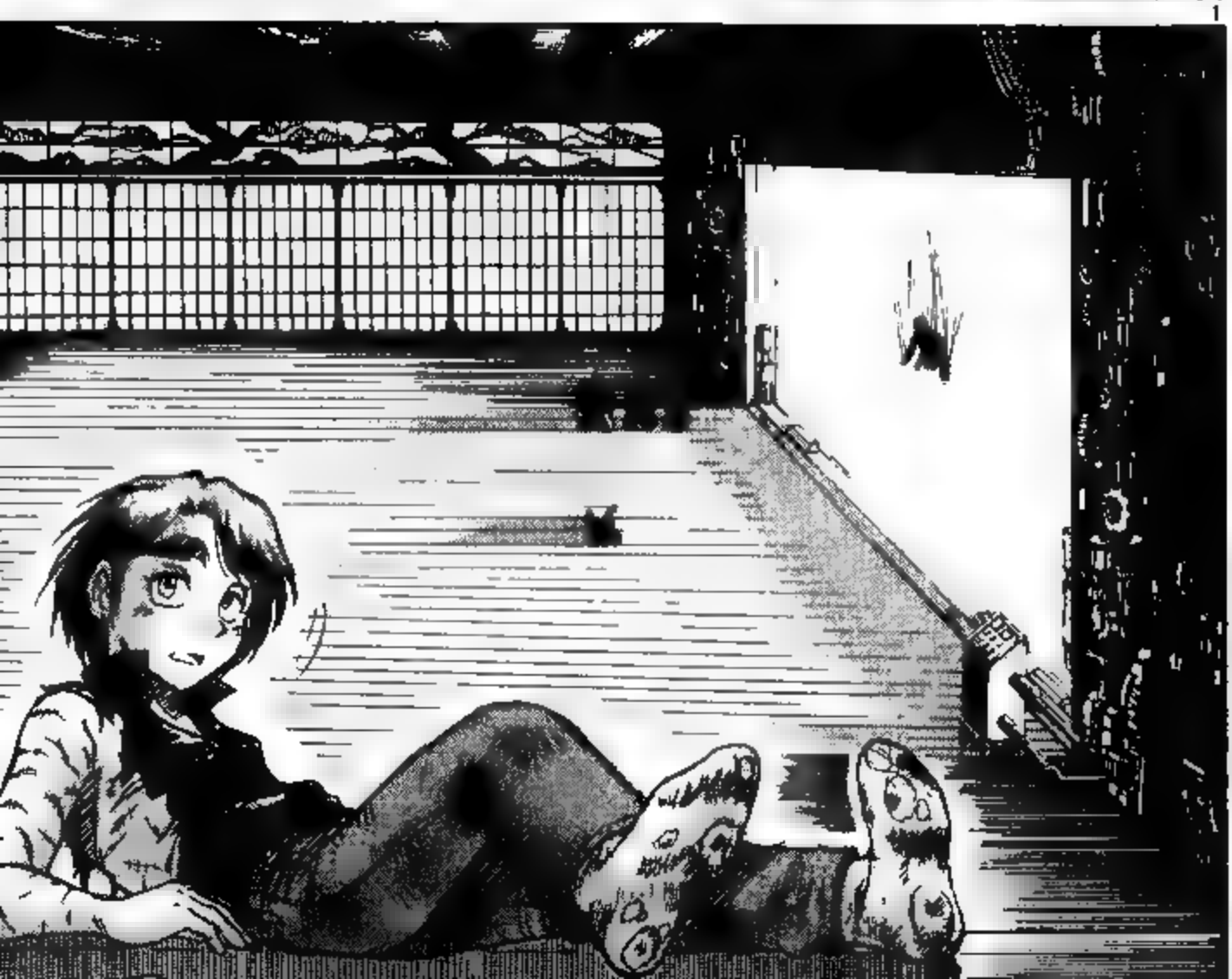
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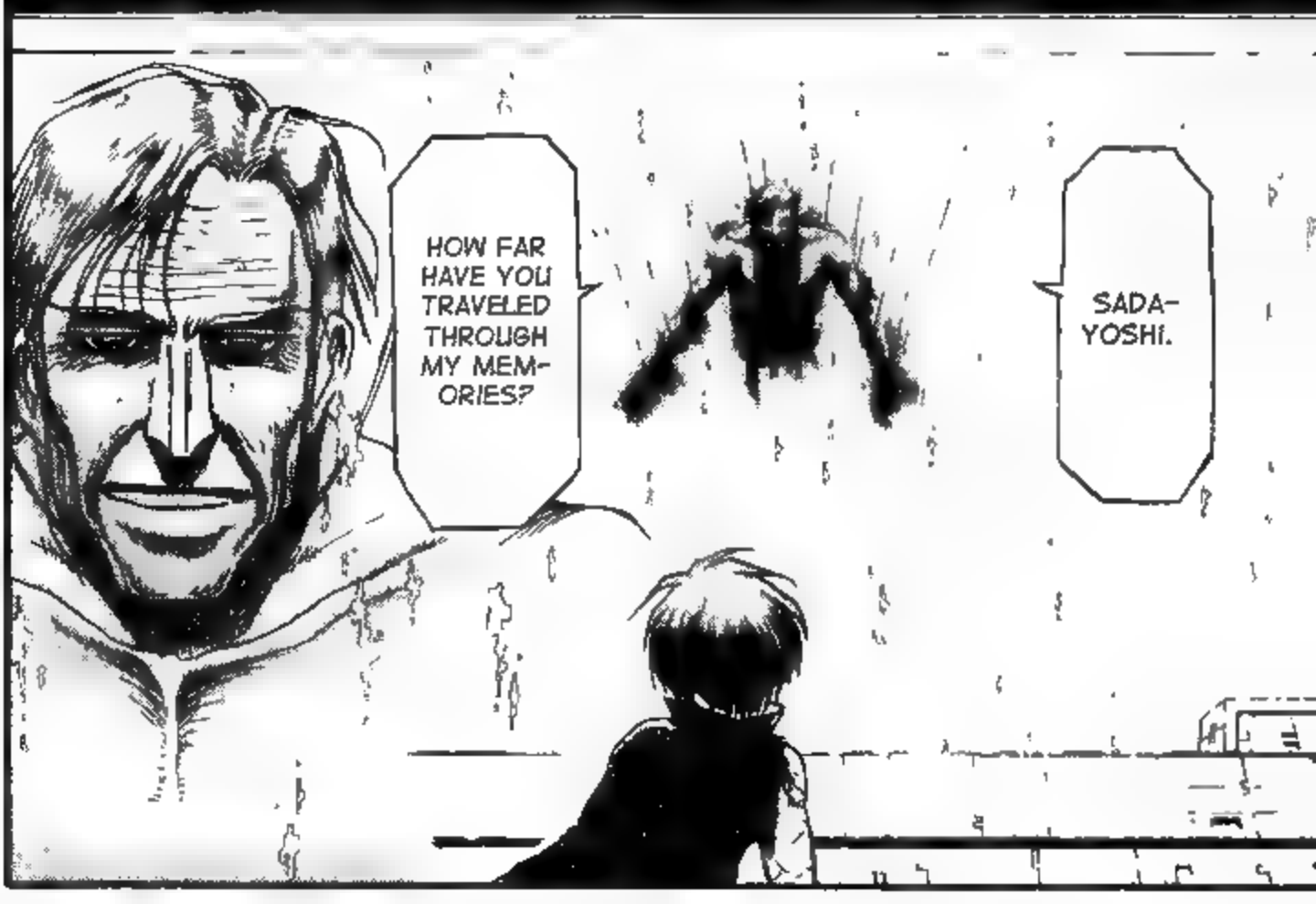
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Act 19
Into the Next Memory



1




HOW FAR HAVE YOU TRAVELED THROUGH MY MEMORIES?
SADA-YOSHI.


ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES.
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN?


OH... THAT'S RIGHT...
I'VE BEEN WATCHING GRANDPA'S MEMORIES, HAVEN'T I...?

2



SFX: FWAH

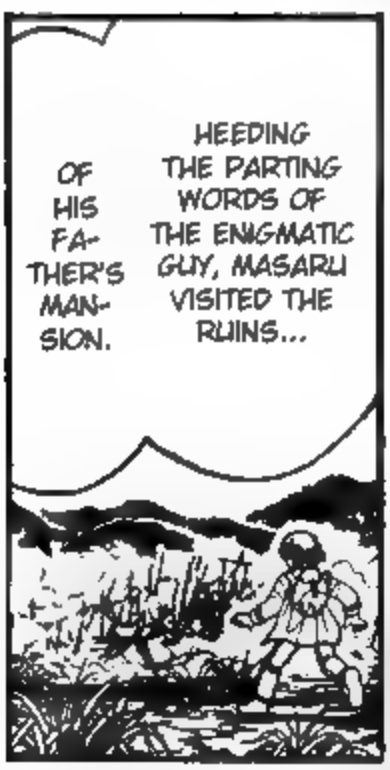

WAS MARRIED TO ANGELINA-SAN.
SO SHOU-JIROU-GRAND-PA...


GOOD DAY TO YOU, LADIES AND GENTLE-MEN.
MY DEEPEST GRATITUDE FOR YOUR CONTINUED ATTENDANCE UPON THIS OH-SO-LENGTHY TALE OF DAYS GONE BY.

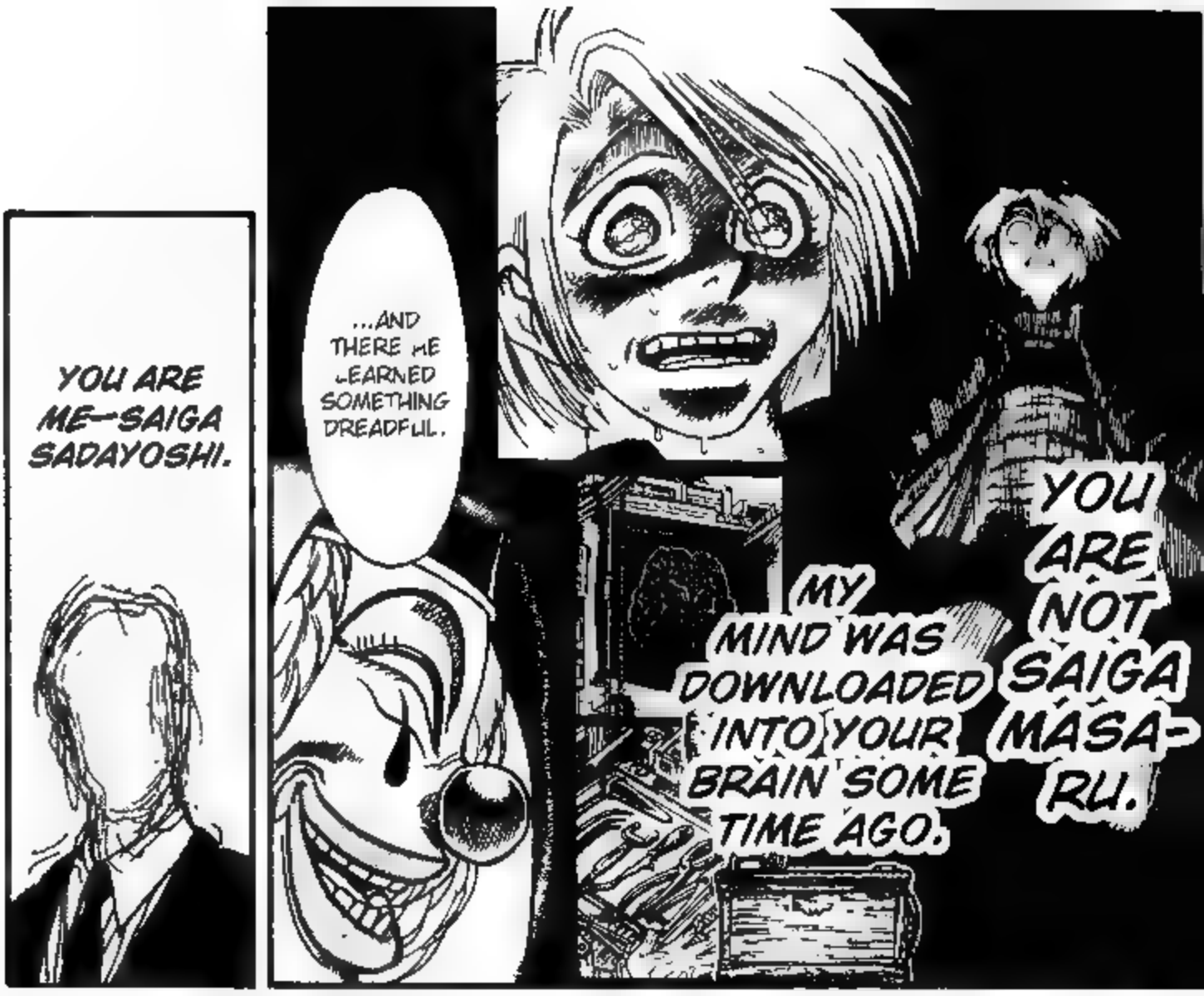
SFX: BWOOOING


AT THE PRESENT MOMENT, MASARU IS WATCHING THE MEMORIES OF HIS GRANDFATHER SHOUJI—MEMORIES OF HIS YOUTH.
FIFTEEN MINUTES HAVE PAS-SED.
AND IT WOULD SEEM THAT HIS JOURNEY THROUGH THOSE MEMORIES WILL SOON RESUME.

3

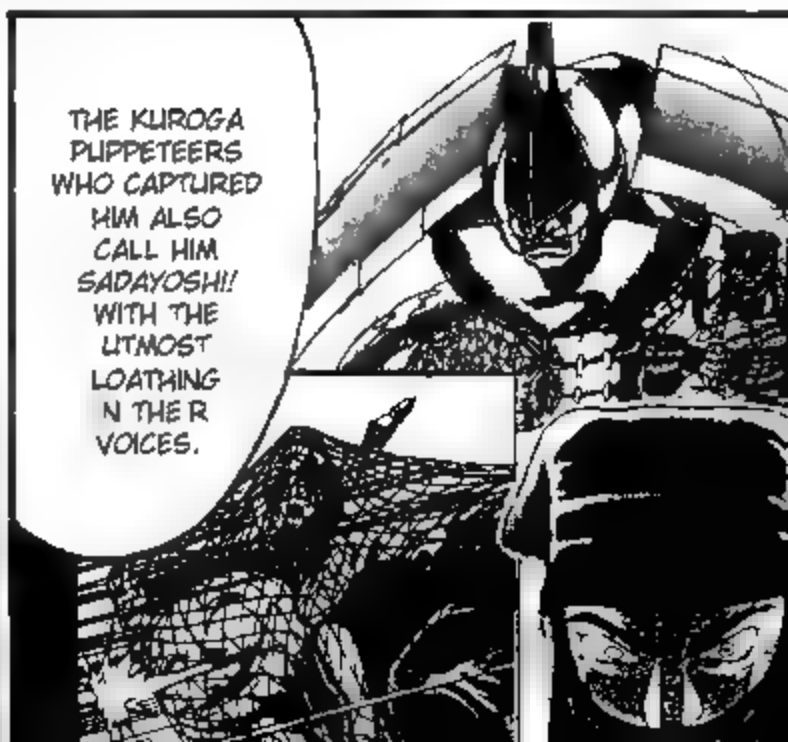


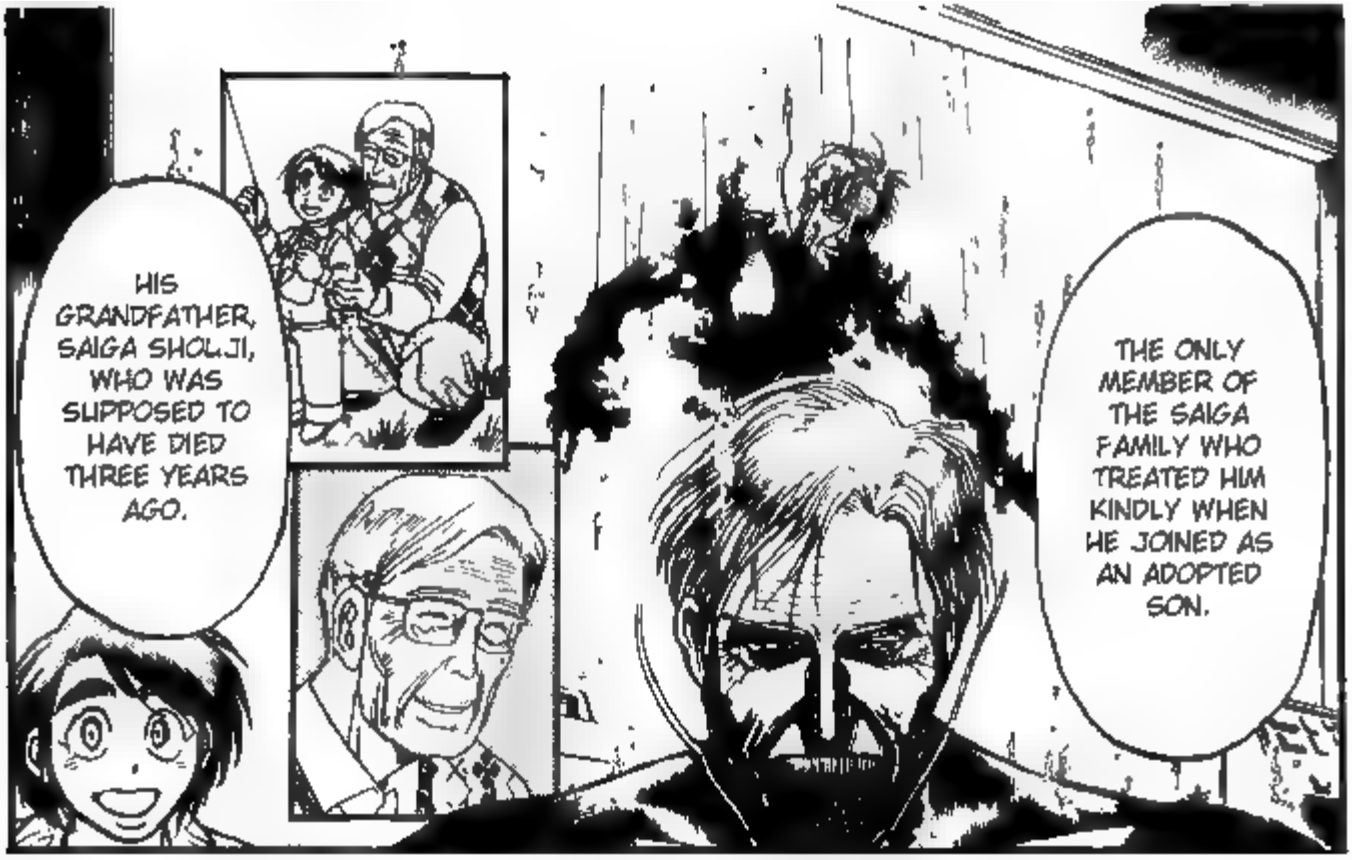

MASARU SET OUT ON HIS OWN, FEELING ASHAMED OF THE LIES HE HAD TOLD. THAT WAS YESTERDAY.
IF YOU RECALL, WHEN THE NAKAMACHI CIRCUS LEARNED THAT HE HAD INHERITED A VAST FORTUNE ...


YOU ARE ME—SAIGA SADAYOSHI.
...AND THERE HE LEARNED SOMETHING DREADFUL.
YOU ARE NOT SAIGA MASARU.
MY MIND WAS DOWNLOADED INTO YOUR BRAIN SOME TIME AGO.


THAT HE IS THE FATHER WHO LEFT HIM HIS ENTIRE ESTATE.
APPARENTLY MASARU SIMPLY HAS YET TO REMEMBER THE FACT...
NOW, ISN'T THAT SOMETHING?

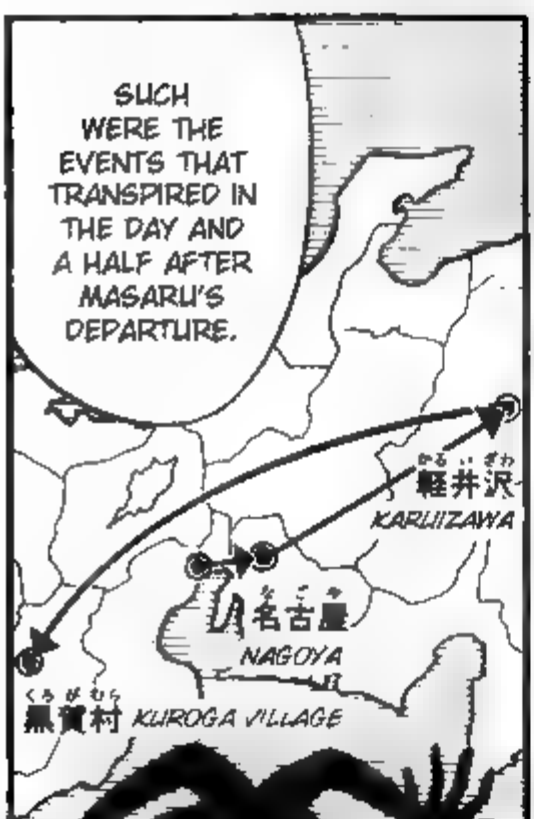

SOMEONE WAS WAITING FOR HIM.
AND WHEN HE WAS TAKEN TO THAT VILLAGE OF KUROGA ...


THE KUROGA PUPPETEERS WHO CAPTURED HIM ALSO CALL HIM SADAYOSHI! WITH THE UTMOST LOATHING IN THEIR VOICES.


HIS GRANDFATHER, SAIGA SHOUJI, WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE DIED THREE YEARS AGO.
THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE SAIGA FAMILY WHO TREATED HIM KINDLY WHEN HE JOINED AS AN ADOPTED SON.


SADAYOSHI, YOU MUST DIE KNOWING WHAT YOU YOURSELF HAVE DESTROYED.
SHOUJI HAD THE OTHERS FORCE MASARU TO DRINK HIS BLOOD.


HIS DELIGHT WAS CUT SHORT WHEN HE WAS ONCE AGAIN CASTIGATED UNDER THE NAME SADA-YOSHI.


SUCH WERE THE EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRED IN THE DAY AND A HALF AFTER MASARU'S DEPARTURE.
軽井沢 KARUIZAWA
名古屋 NAGOYA
黒賀村 KUROGA VILLAGE


AND SO BEGAN MASARU'S JOURNEY THROUGH THE MEMORIES OF HIS GRAND-FATHER SHOUJI.


THAT BLOOD CONTAINED AQUA VITAE, WHICH CAN STORE A PERSON'S MEMORIES...


LET US NOW TURN BACK THE CLOCK JUST A BIT...
TO THE MOMENT WHEN THE MEMBERS OF THE NAKAMACH CIRCUS LEARNED THAT MASARU WAS GONE.

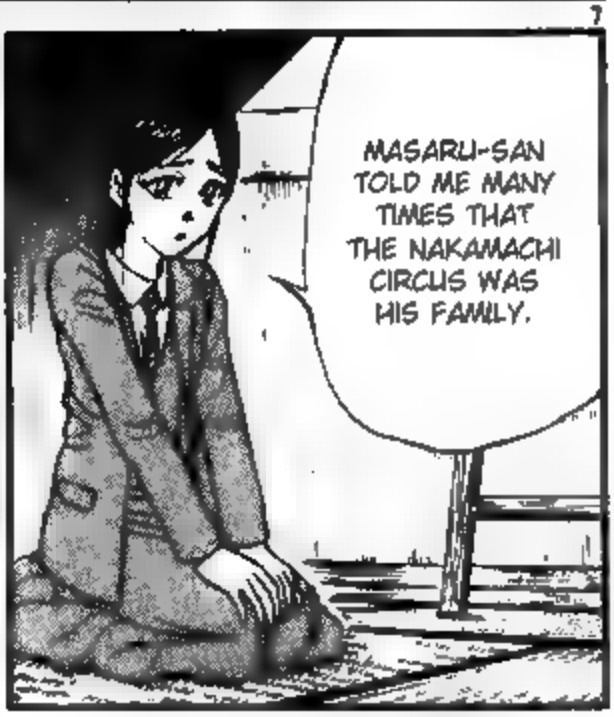

IT LOOKS LIKE HE REALLY IS GONE.
FOR PETE'S SAKE! WHERE'D THAT BRAT HEAD OFF TO ALL ON HIS OWN?
ALL OF MASARU-SAN'S POS-SESSIONS ARE GONE ...!
HE NEVER EVEN WENT TO SCHOOL!
NO GOOD, POPS! WE CAN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE!
MM ...

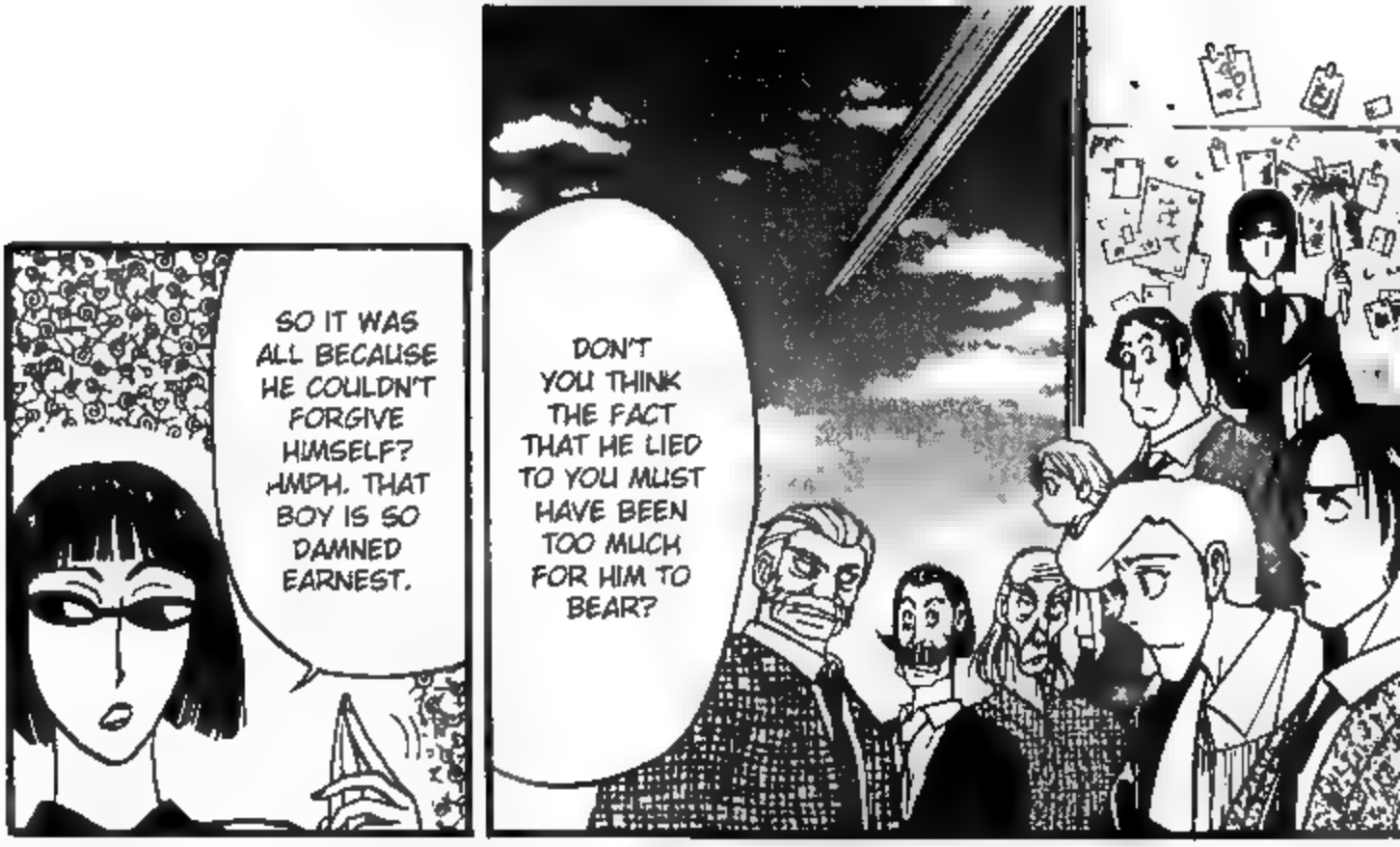

IMAGINE TAKING SUCH A DRASTIC STEP WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A BY-YOUR-LEAVE TO US! WE'RE AS GOOD AS HIS FAMILY!
WHO SAID HE HAD TO DO THIS JUST BECAUSE WE FOUND OUT HE'S RICH?!
HMPH! GIM-ME A BRE-AK!
MUST BE BECAUSE OF HIS REAL IDENTITY SLIPPING OUT YES-TERDAY.


DIDN'T THIS HAPPEN... *BECAUSE* YOU WERE FAMILY?


I wasn't
ME TOO! I WAS TOTALLY THINKING WE WERE A FAMILY! THAT LITTLE JERK!
YEAH, EXACTLY! HERE I WAS THINKING OF THE GUY AS A LITTLE BROTHER!


AND HE WOULD SMILE SO HAPPILY...


MASARU-SAN TOLD ME MANY TIMES THAT THE NAKAMACHI CIRCUS WAS HIS FAMILY.

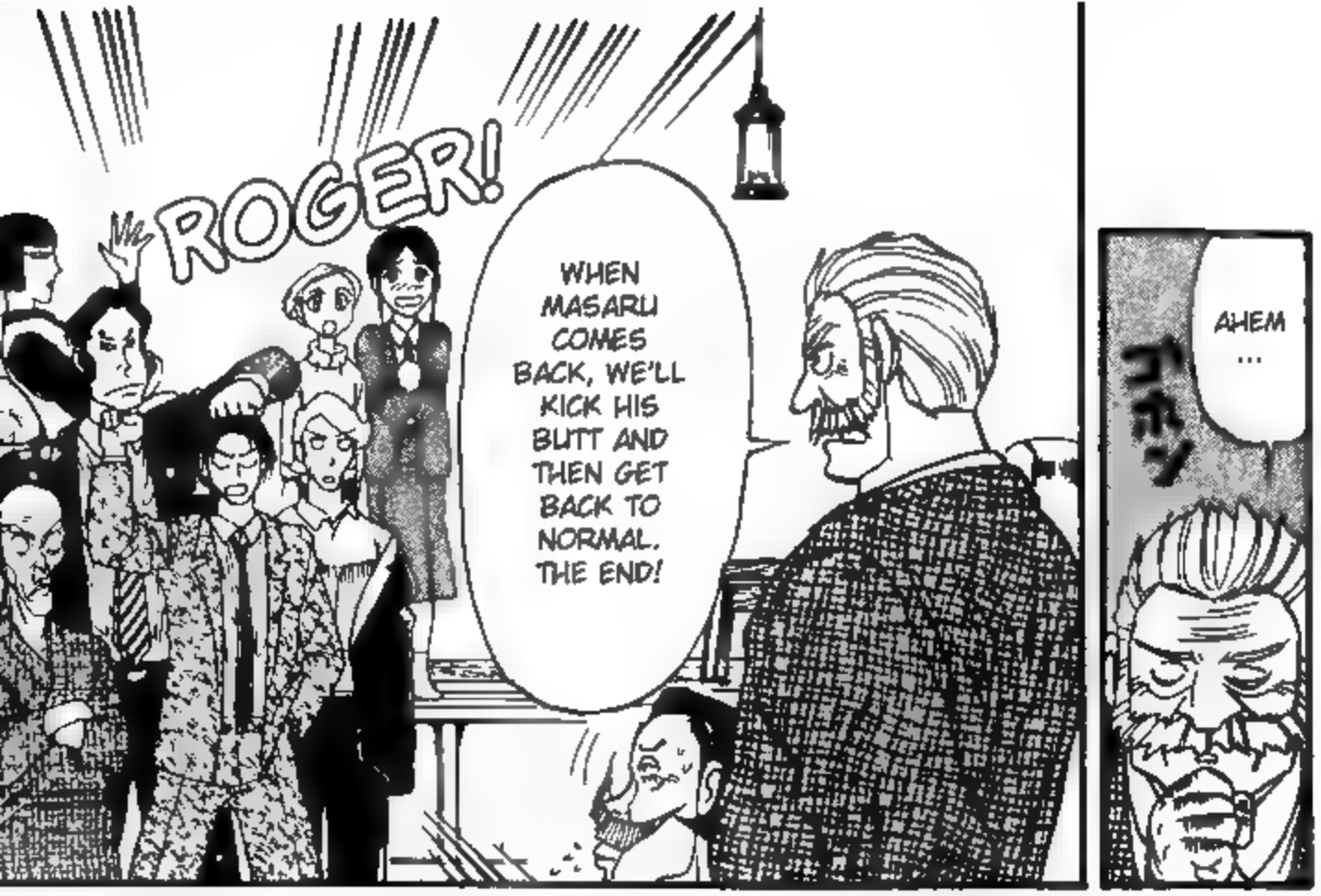

SO IT WAS ALL BECAUSE HE COULDN'T FORGIVE HIMSELF? HMPH. THAT BOY IS SO DAMNED EARNEST.
DON'T YOU THINK THE FACT THAT HE LIED TO YOU MUST HAVE BEEN TOO MUCH FOR HIM TO BEAR?


THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT ANYWAY! IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT LOOK YOU GAVE HIM!
IT'S OKAY, LIESE.
I'M SORRY... I KNEW ALL ALONG.
BUT MASARU-SAN THOUGHT IT WOULD ONLY TROUBLE YOU...


UH, RIGHT.
COME ON, RINGMASTER. SAY SOMETHING!


CUT THAT OUT!!


AND JUST WHEN DID I DO THAT?!
EXCUSE ME?! IT WAS YOU TWO GIVING HIM THE DESPICABLE LOOKS!


ROGER!
WHEN MASARU COMES BACK, WE'LL KICK HIS BUTT AND THEN GET BACK TO NORMAL. THE END!
AHEM ...


YES, I WAS JUST STARTING TO SEE IT IN A BETTER LIGHT MYSELF. YOU'VE DONE YOUR SHARE OF DISAPPEARING ACTS TOO, NAKAMACHI.
WELL, I WAS JUST THINKIN'... RUNNIN' AWAY FROM HOME ACTUALLY SHOWS A LOTTA GUTS ON HIS PART.
Not to mention you two look oddly happy about something
IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY, NAKAMACHI?


AND WHAT DOES MASARU DO THEN?
WE'LL WAIT FOR THREE DAYS! THEN WE LEAVE!
YOU'RE TAKING THIS AWFULLY LIGHTLY, AREN'T YOU? WHAT ABOUT OUR ACT?!
ROGER!
COULD YOU MAYBE KEEP THESE THOUGHTS TO YOURSELF?!
HE MUST'VE REALLY MADE HIS MIND UP. ARE WE SURE HE'S COMING BACK AT ALL?
hehehehe!


おぼっちゃまぁぁ
WE'LL LEAVE THAT TO SHIROGANE AND GUY.


おぼっちゃま
おぼっちゃま
PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, ELEONORE
40
ふらあ
あぁ


YES! IT WAS MY CARELESSNESS THAT CAUSED THIS. IF ONLY I HAD KEPT A CLOSER EYE ON HIM...!
IT MUST HAVE BEEN QUITE AN UN-PLEA-SANT SHOCK.
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU IN SUCH A STATE.
BUT, MAITRE... THE YOUNG MASTER NEVER SAID A WORD TO ME ABOUT THIS.
WHAT?
SOMETHING THAT MASARU CAN LEAVE IN YOUR HANDS?
IS THIS...
FOR BOYS ...
THERE COMES A TIME WHEN THEY MUST ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING BY THEIR OWN POWER.
I DOUBT MASARU HAS ANY DESIRE TO PLAY ALONG WITH YOUR NOTION OF HOW THINGS SHOULD BE.
B-BUT, IF I WERE THERE TO PROTECT HIM...
LISTEN, ELEO-NORE.
...BUT...

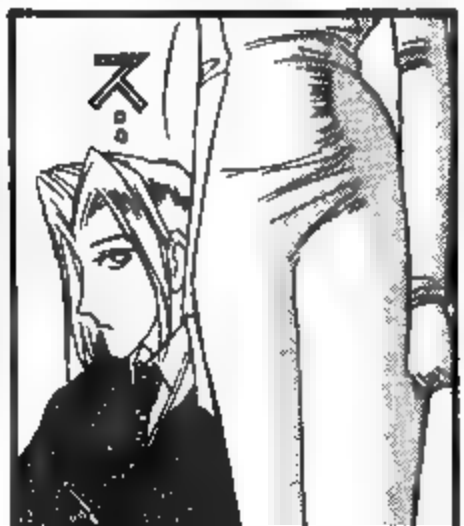

BUT... WHAT IS THAT *SOMETHING*?
YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT AND ACCEPT IT.
HE LEFT YOU BECAUSE THERE WAS SOMETHING HE WANTED TO SEE THROUGH ON HIS OWN.

IS THAT THERE IS ANOTHER KIND OF LOVE. ONE THAT DOES NOT INVOLVE *PROTECTING* SOMEONE
THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO KNOW.
WHAT YOU MUST KNOW...


SHALL WE KEEP LOOKING?


I WILL BEAR THAT IN MIND.
I UNDER-STAND, MAITRE.


LOVING... WITHOUT PROTEC-TING...


K.


LET'S SEARCH SEPAR-ATELY, THEN.
I AM STILL...
THE YOUNG MASTER'S FAMILY.
YES, MAITRE!

13


I WILL BE THE ONE TO FOLLOW HIM.
MASARU MUST DO THIS HIMSELF.
GO ON SEARCHING IN THE WRONG PLACES FOR A WHILE.
I'M SORRY, ELEO-NORE ...

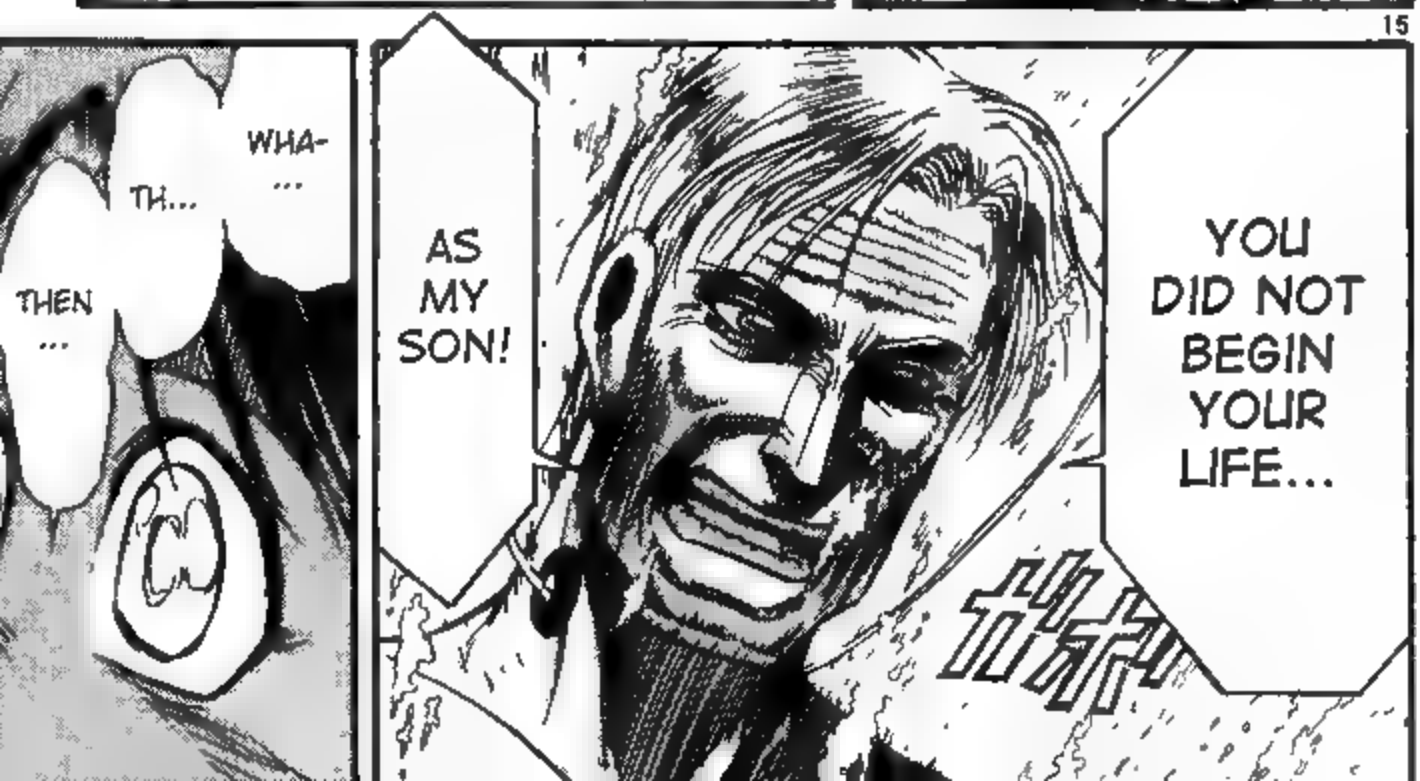




14




THEIR CHILD WAS MY DAD.
SAIGA SADAYOSHI, THE ONE EVERYBODY SAYS IS INSIDE ME!
IF GRANDPA WAS MARRIED TO ANGELINA-SAN...
THAT MEANS ...
STILL YOU FEIGN IGNOR-ANCE?
SO
KEEP QUIET, GRIP-PON-KUN!
THAT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS, SADAYOSHI-SAMA!


WHA- ...
TH...
THEN ...
AS MY SON!
YOU DID NOT BEGIN YOUR LIFE...


SHIRO-GANE?!
ELEO-NORE?!
THE NEXT IS ONE THAT SHOULD INTEREST YOU MORE THAN ANY OTHER.
KEEP WATCHING MY MEM-ORIES, SADA-YOSH!
SHE IS MY ONLY DAUGHTER. CONSIDER YOURSELF INFORMED!
MY CHILD'S NAME IS ELEONORE.


AND GUY CHRIS-TOPHE RECH
THE LEADER OF THE AUTO-MATA, DOLL FRAN-CINE
IT CONCERNS YOURSELF


MY CRY WAS SWALLOWED UP IN THE RAPIDS OF A NEW MEMORY.
GRANDPA, I'M NOT... SADAYOSHI!
SADA-YOSHI!
YOU ARE ABOUT TO LEARN WHAT IT IS THAT YOU OVERLOOKED

translation by funnuraba tumblr com

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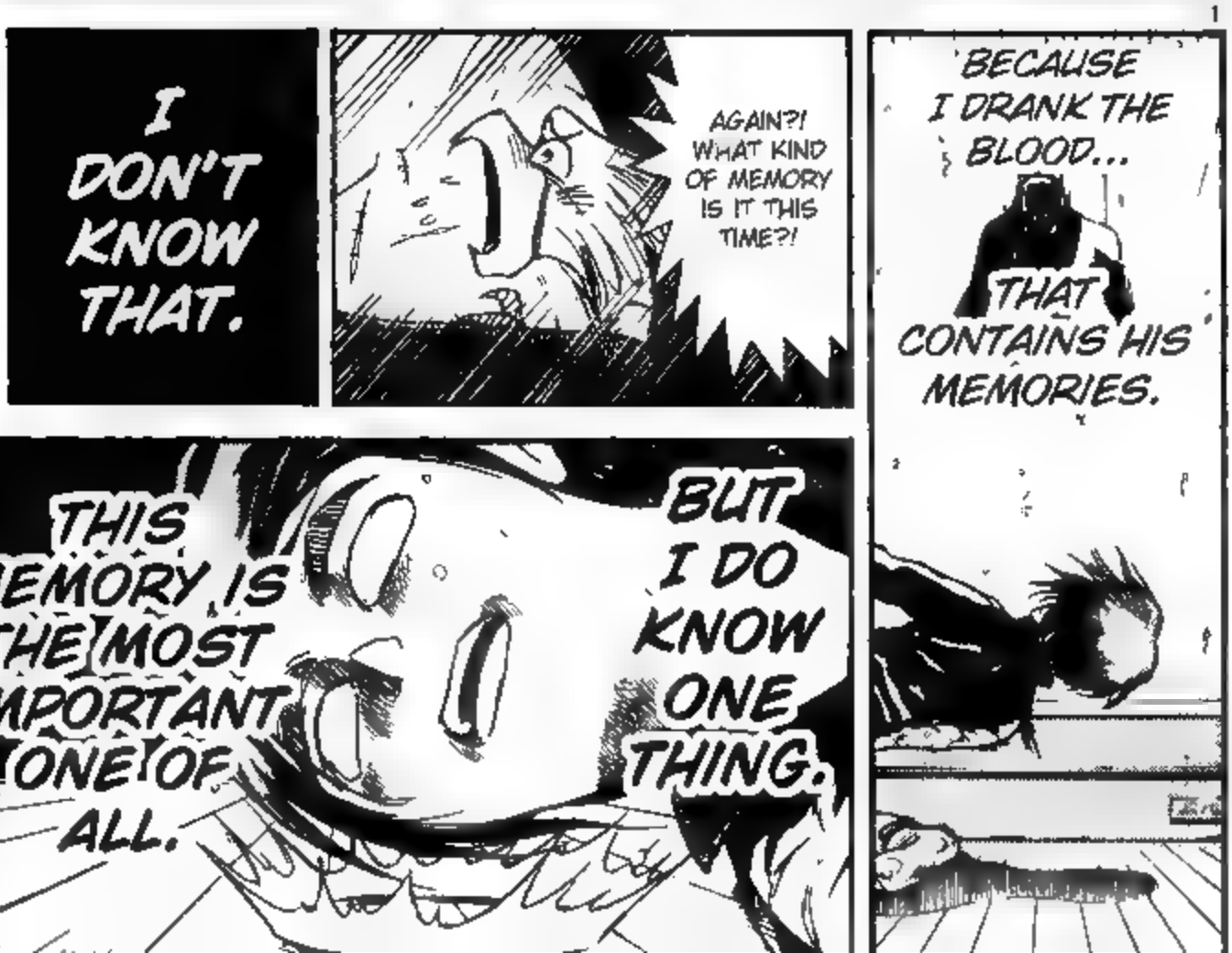
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Act 20
A Visitor to the Meiji Era (I)


I DON'T KNOW THAT.
AGAIN?! WHAT KIND OF MEMORY IS IT THIS TIME?!
BECAUSE I DRANK THE BLOOD...
THAT CONTAINS HIS MEMORIES.
THIS MEMORY IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ONE OF ALL.
BUT I DO KNOW ONE THING.


TOKYO.


YEAR 42 OF THE MEIJI ERA (1909 BY THE WESTERN CALENDAR).
THIS IS THE VERY END OF THE MEIJI ERA, MORE THAN 90 YEARS BEFORE THE PRESENT DAY.

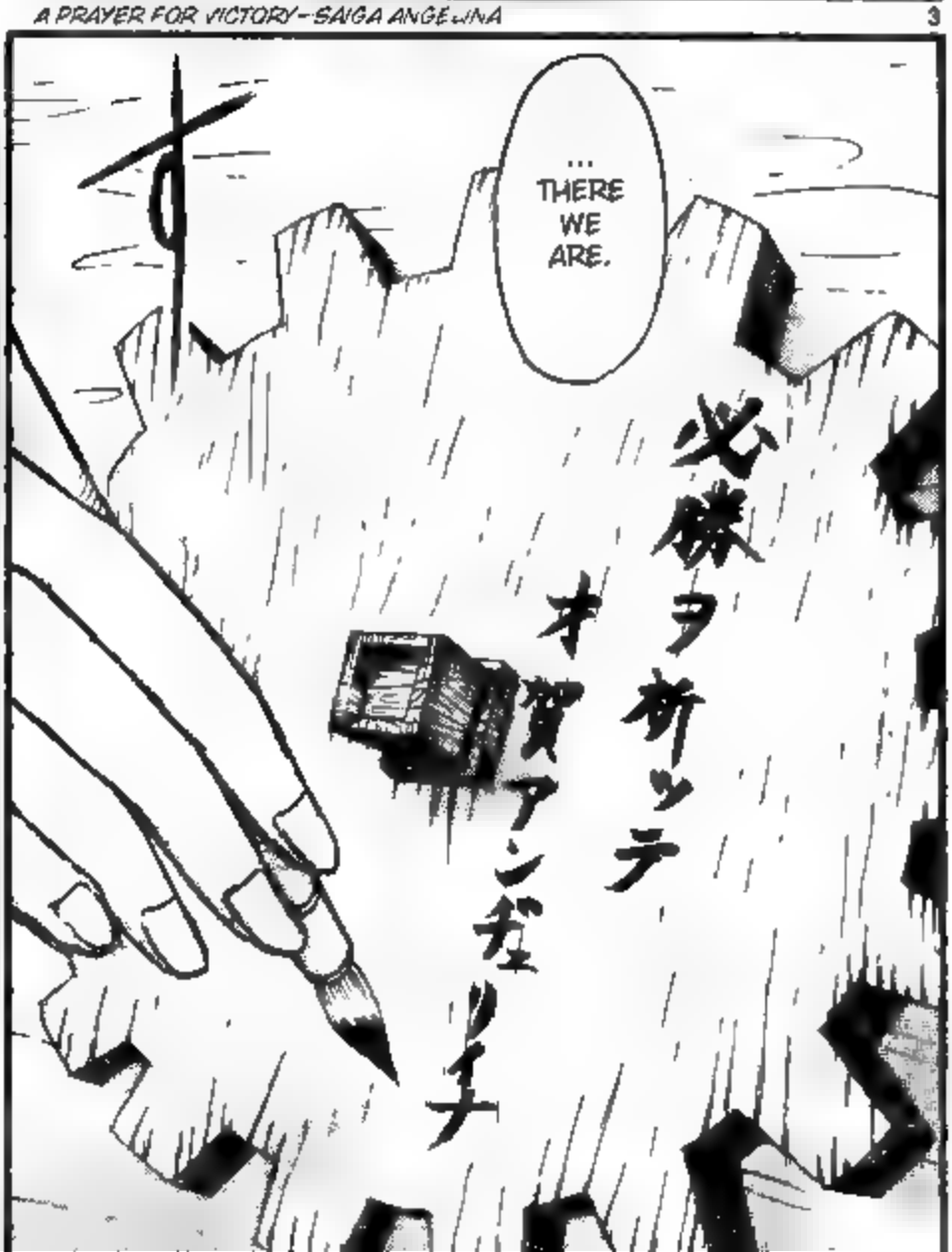

SHOUJIROU HAS CHANGED HIS NAME TO SHOUJI.
I'M SHOUJIROU (GRANDPA) AGAIN.







A PRAYER FOR VICTORY—SAIGA ANGELINA 3

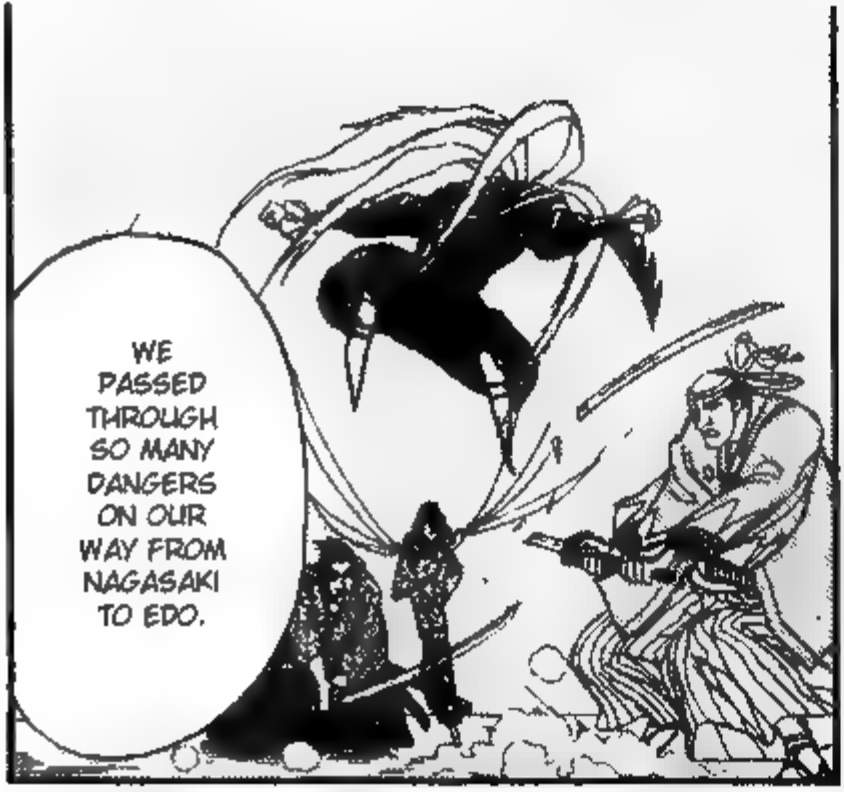



OH, GOOD
AND SHOUJI IS 49.

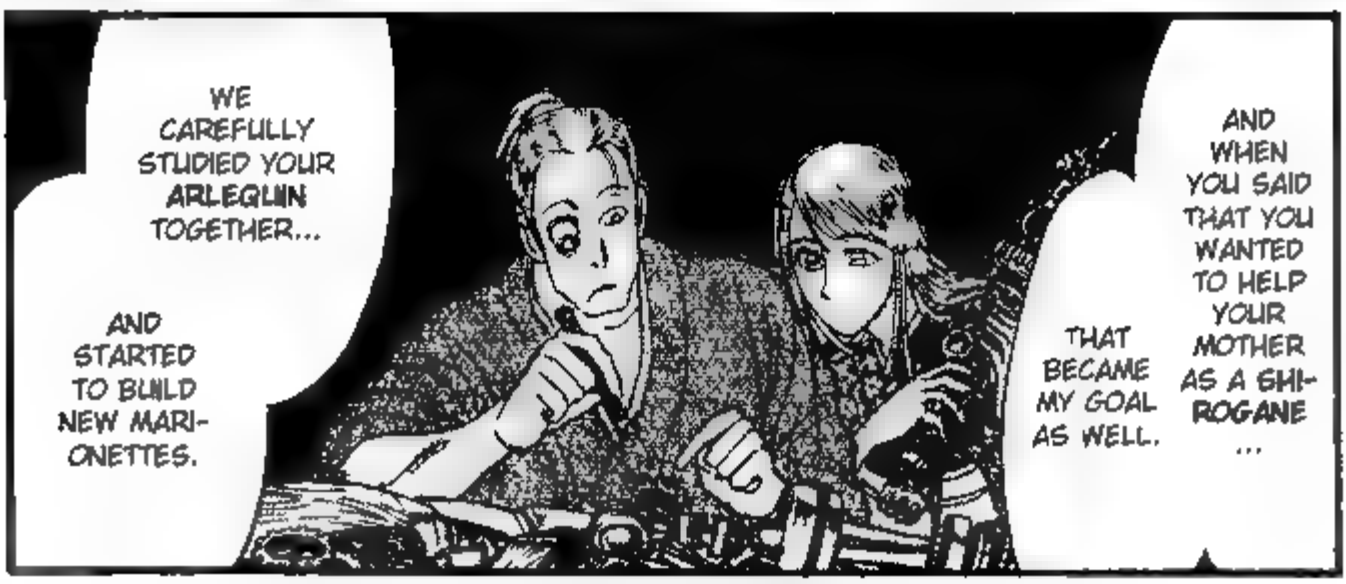
4


THAT'S WHY THEY'RE STILL SO YOUNG.
THOSE WHO DRINK AQUA VITAE AGE ONLY ONE YEAR FOR EVERY FIVE THEY LIVE.


RIGHT NOW, SHIROGANE ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE USING ...
NOT AT ALL. I'M SURE THE PUPPETS GAIN STRENGTH FROM THE WORDS YOU WRITE.
BUT I STILL CAN'T CONTRIBUTE ANYTHING MORE THAN THAT.
SO NOW SCHWARZES TOR HAS ITS LUCKY CHARM TOO.
THAT YOU AND I MADE.
THESE PUPPETS ..
BUT I NEVER COULD HAVE PULLED IT OFF WITHOUT YOUR KNOW-LEDGE
Ha ha ha
THE PUPPETS YOU BUILD ARE TOP OF THE LINE WHEN IT COMES TO COMBAT POWER, EASE OF USE, AND DURABILITY.
BESIDES, AREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO SAID THAT YOU WANTED TO WORK WITH THE SHIROGANE AND BUILD THEM MORE POWERFUL PUPPETS?


WE PASSED THROUGH SO MANY DANGERS ON OUR WAY FROM NAGASAKI TO EDO.


YES, I CAN SEE IT NOW...
IT'S BEEN SIXTY-SEVEN YEARS ...


WE CAREFULLY STUDIED YOUR ARLEQUIN TOGETHER...
AND STARTED TO BUILD NEW MARIONETTES.
THAT BECAME MY GOAL AS WELL.
AND WHEN YOU SAID THAT YOU WANTED TO HELP YOUR MOTHER AS A SHIROGANE ...

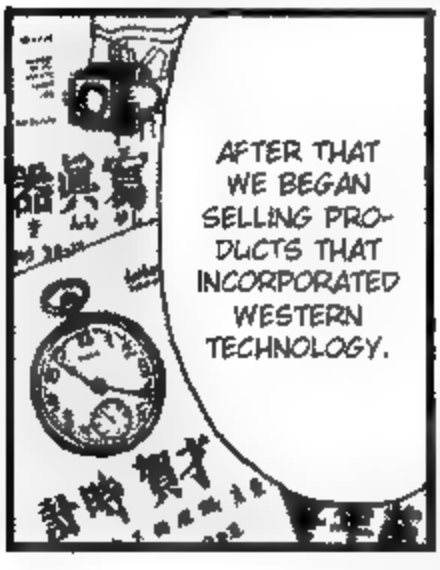

IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR A SHIROGANE TO DO ALL HE CAN TO DEFEAT THE AUTOMATA.
BESIDES, I'M A SHIROGANE AS WELL.

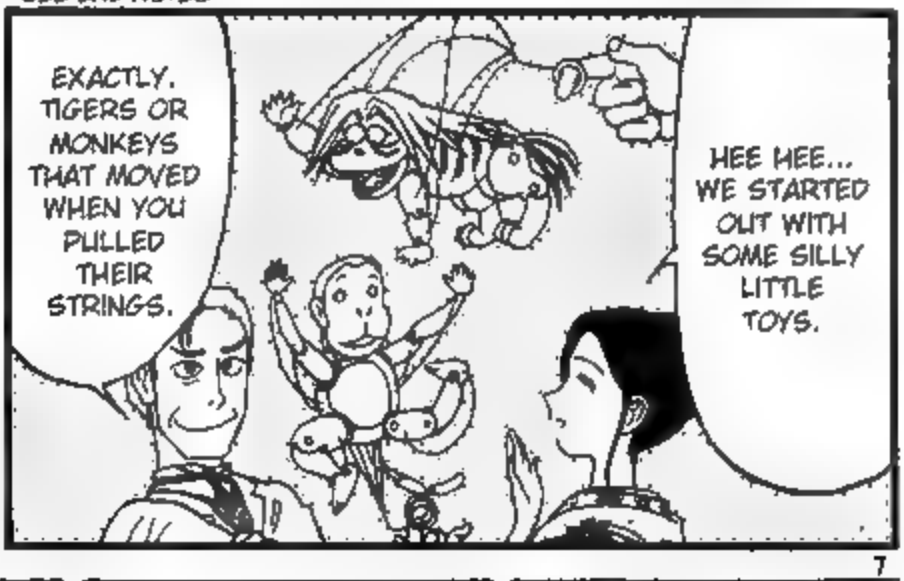

HA HA HA! ANGELINA, I'VE BEEN INTERESTED IN KARAKURI DOLLS EVER SINCE I WAS A BOY.
THANK YOU FOR GOING SO FAR JUST FOR ME...


WE'RE THE MARRIED PRESIDENTS OF THE SAIGA MECHANICAL COMPANY.
WE BECAME UNMATCHED IN THE FIELD OF MECHANICS.
AS WE BUILT THESE PUPPETS TO HELP THEM...
ON TOP OF THAT...


YES... WE BEGAN BY CALLING TOGETHER PUPPETEERS WHO HAD BUILT KARAKURI DOLLS...
FROM EDO AND THE SURROUNDING REGIONS, TO AID US.
BEFORE WE EVEN REALIZED IT, WE WERE KNOWN BY THE NAME SAIGA...
NOT AS A CLAN, BUT AS A BUSINESS.

*SEE END NOTES



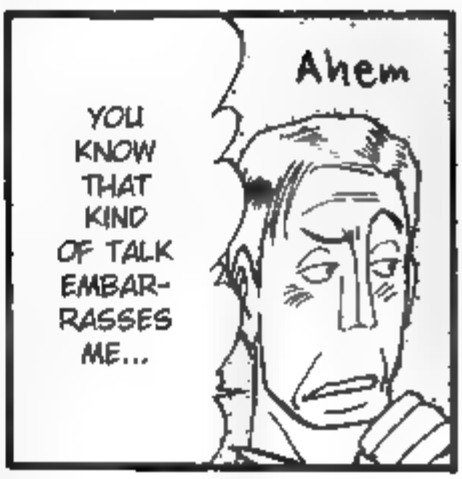


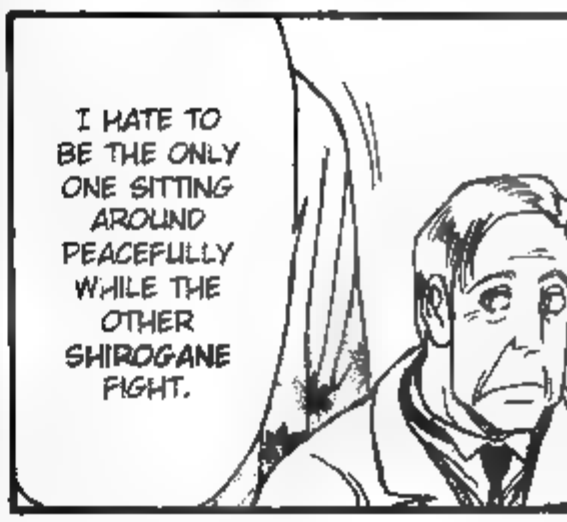

AFTER POLITICAL AUTHORITY WAS RESTORED TO THE EMPEROR, THE EDO SHOGUNATE CEASED TO EXIST, AND WHEN JAPAN WAS OPENED UP...
SAIGA BECAME A HUGE COMPANY WITH INFLUENCE IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT.






BUT I AM VERY HAPPY.
...THAT SOUNDS LIKE A COM-PLAINT ...


Ahem
YOU KNOW THAT KIND OF TALK EMBAR-RASSES ME...


I HATE TO BE THE ONLY ONE SITTING AROUND PEACEFULLY WHILE THE OTHER SHIROGANE FIGHT.


1
SHOUJI-SAMA, PREPARA-TIONS ARE COMPLETE FOR THE FAREWELL PARTY.


SFX: KNOCK KNOCK


DEAN MAISTRE... HE'S BEEN A GREAT FRIEND TO ME THESE PAST FORTY YEARS.


HEE HEE. NO ONE WILL BE USING THAT NAME ONCE HE LEAVES JAPAN.
I SEE. SO TODAY IS SADA-YOSHI'S FAREWELL PARTY?


HE ARRIVED SOON AFTER YOU SENT WORD...
WHEN JAPAN FINALLY OPENED UP.


FORTY YEARS AGO...
STILL NOT HERE, HUH?
EVEN THOUGH FREE TRADE IS TECHNICALLY ALLOWED ...
IT'S STILL A BIG DEAL FOR FOREIGNERS TO ENTER THE COUNTRY.


IT WAS ENOUGH OF A MIRACLE THAT THAT LETTER ENDED UP IN FRANCE AFTER YOU GAVE IT TO A DUTCH SHIP...
BUT TO THINK THEY'RE SENDING A SINGLE SHIROGANE TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY AND COLLECT OUR PUPPETS FROM JAPAN...

SFX: CASUAL


I MADE IT IN, DIDN'T I?
けろり
YOU WERE A PRETTY SPECIAL CASE!
Gave me the chills when I heard the story
I'M NOT SURE ANYONE'S ACTUALLY ...
OH!


IT'S DEAN!
DEAN IS VERY GOOD WITH DIS-GUISES.
HEE HEE HEE
BUT HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE SOME YOUNG FOREIGN GUY, RIGHT? I DON'T SEE ANYONE LIKE THAT.
YOU KNOW HIM?
OH, LOOK! HE'S NOTICED US.
DEAN! IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
OH, HIM?


KON-
NICHI-
WAAA!

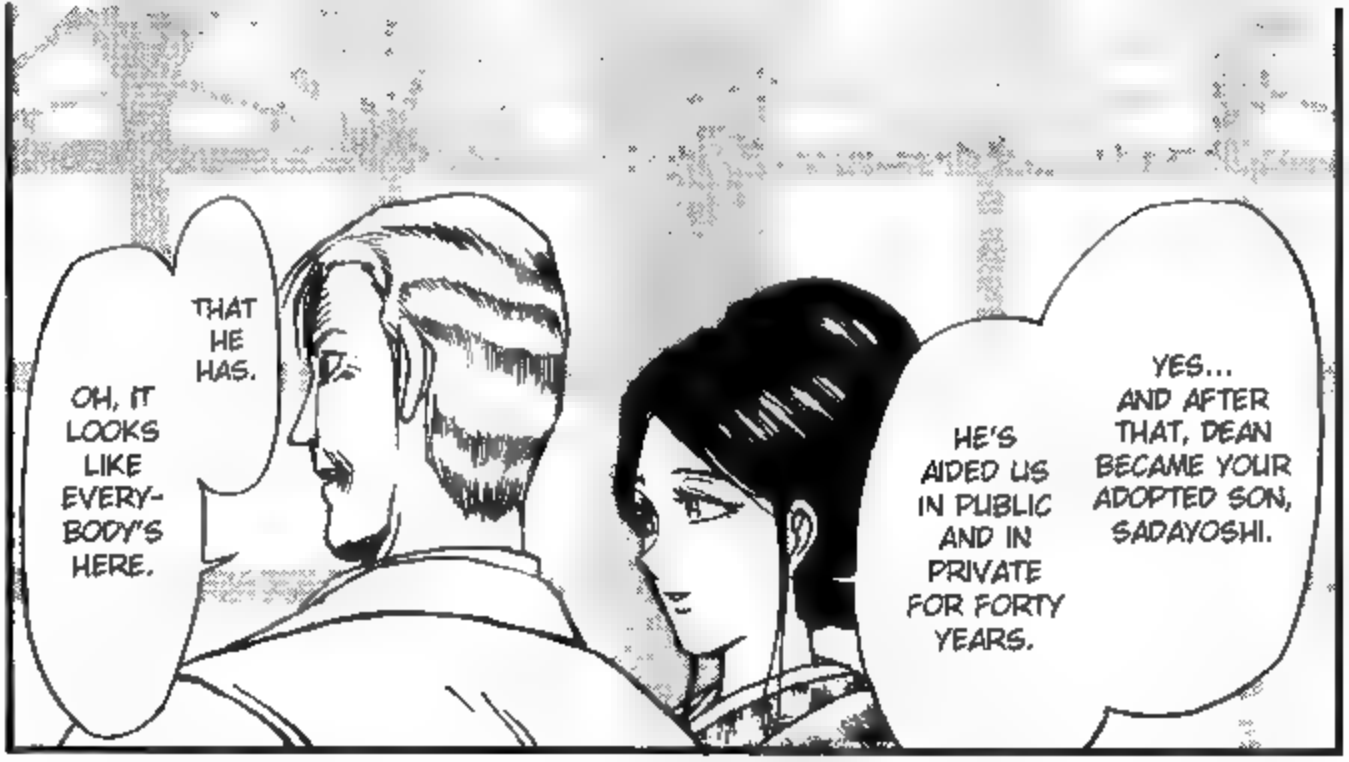

YOU'RE TAKING THINGS TOO FAR, DEAN.
ANGELINA! ANGELINA! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! YOU LOOK SO VERY HEALTHY!
MON-SIEUR SHOUJI! MONSIEUR SHOUJI! THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!!
YOU'VE MADE ANGE-LINA HAPPY!
UH... YEAH...

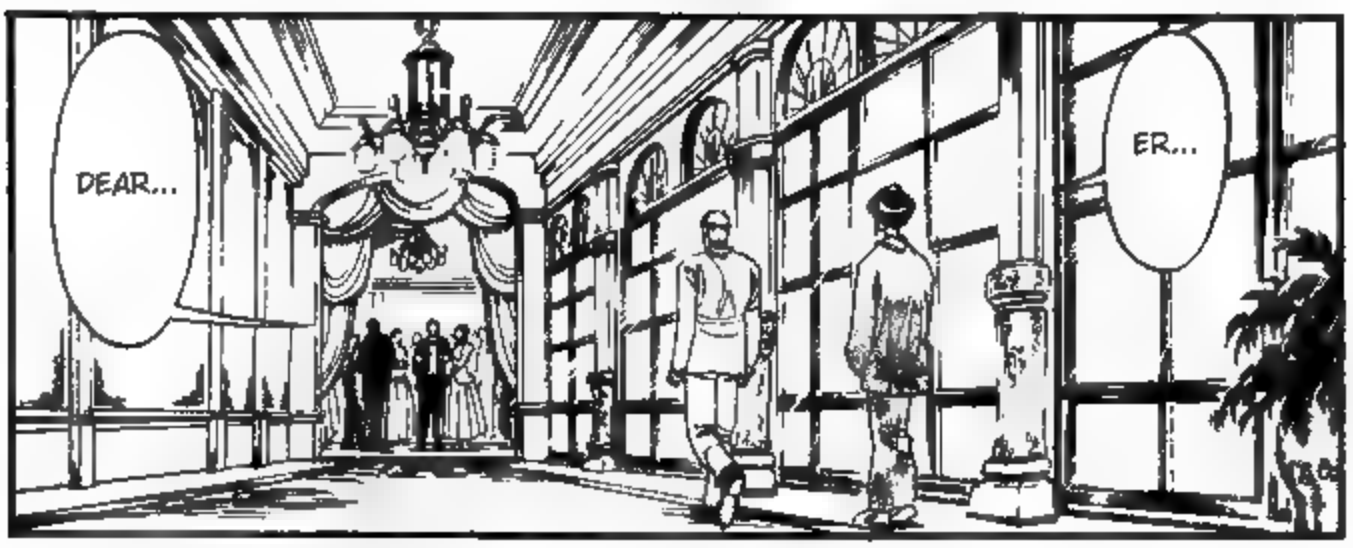
SFX: *RUB RUB*


YOU NEVER CHANGE, DO YOU?
WAS NOT EXPEC TING THAT ...
OH, DO EXCUSE ME! I'M JUST SO VERY HAPPY!
ぱぱ

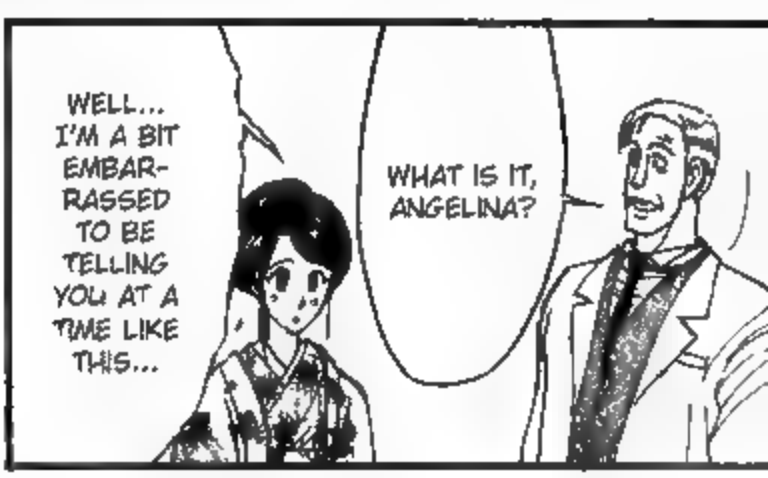

THE NAME'S DEAN MAISTRE. PLEASED TO MEET YOU!
I'M THE SHIROGANE APPOINTED BY MADAME LUCILLE TO WORK WITH YOU ON TRANSPORTING AND PRODUCING THE MARIO-NETTES.


JUST CALL ME DEAN, MONSIEUR SHOUJI!
UHH, MONSIEUR MAISTRE.
YOU TOO... I'M SAIGA SHOUJI. YOU SURE GOT A LOT OF ENERGY THERE...
AHAHAHA! YOU SURE ARE ONE FUNNY GUY!
PFFT...
I'M HOPELESS! I JUST CAN'T STAY SERIOUS.
OH.. DO EXCUSE ME.
HE WAS SO CHEERFUL THAT MY NERVOUS FEELINGS ABOUT THE SHIROGANE VANISHED IN AN INSTANT.
BACK THEN I FELT AS IF I'D ALREADY KNOWN HIM FOR A HUNDRED YEARS.


YES... AND AFTER THAT, DEAN BECAME YOUR ADOPTED SON, SADAYOSHI.
HE'S AIDED US IN PUBLIC AND IN PRIVATE FOR FORTY YEARS.
THAT HE HAS.
OH, IT LOOKS LIKE EVERY-BODY'S HERE.


ER...
DEAR...


WHEN THERE'S SOMETHING TO DISCUSS, WE'VE ALWAYS GONE AHEAD AND SAID IT, NO MATTER WHAT THE TIME OR PLACE!
WHAT IS IT? TELL ME!


WHAT IS IT, ANGELINA?
WELL... I'M A BIT EMBAR-RASSED TO BE TELLING YOU AT A TIME LIKE THIS...


WELL...


Was it the Automata?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? IS SOME-THING WRONG WITH YOU?
HURRY UP AND SAY IT.


NOW... ACTUALLY, I BELIEVE THIS MAY BE THE FIRST TIME...
THIS HAS EVER HAPPENED TO A SHI-ROGANE WOMAN ...

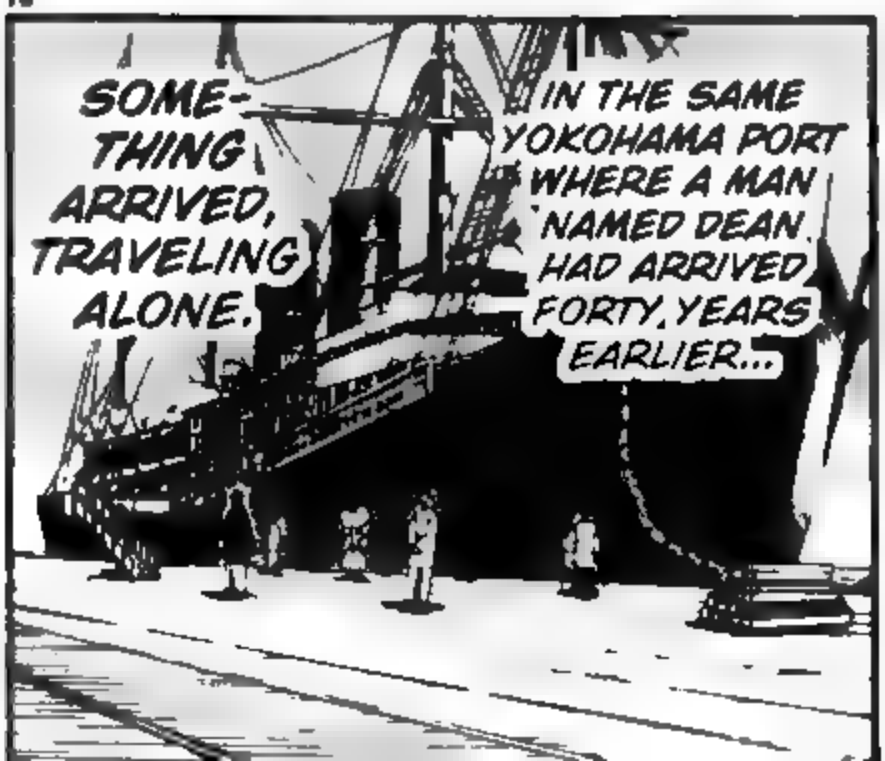

I'M... EXPECTING A BABY.


.....
ARE... ARE YOU SURE?
A... BABY ...?
WHAT WAS ...?


HA HA HA!
HA... HA HA.
I'M... GONNA BE A DAD?







ON THAT VERY DAY, THOUGH OF COURSE SHOUJI (I) AND ANGELINA-SAN COULD NOT HAVE KNOWN...


I HAVE A REQUEST.
HUH?
WOW. OH ...


I WISH TO MEET WITH SOMEONE BY THE NAME OF...
SAIGA ANGE-LINA.

translation by funnuraba tumblr com

NOTES:

pg. 6: 才賀機巧社 *Saiga Kikousha*

機巧 is read here as *kikou*, trick or contrivance *Karakuri* has essentially the same meaning, and 機巧 is used in several other manga to refer to mechanical dolls like the puppets in **Karakuri Circus**

pg. 7: As you can see, the cursive text is *extremely* difficult to read, the important part is that the Saiga (才賀) conglomerate is so named from the 才 (genius) and 賀 (joy) of *karakuri*

The tiger in the second panel is Tora from **Ushio & Tora**.

pg. 14: Adopting an adult son to carry on the family name or business was (and is) a common practice in Japan

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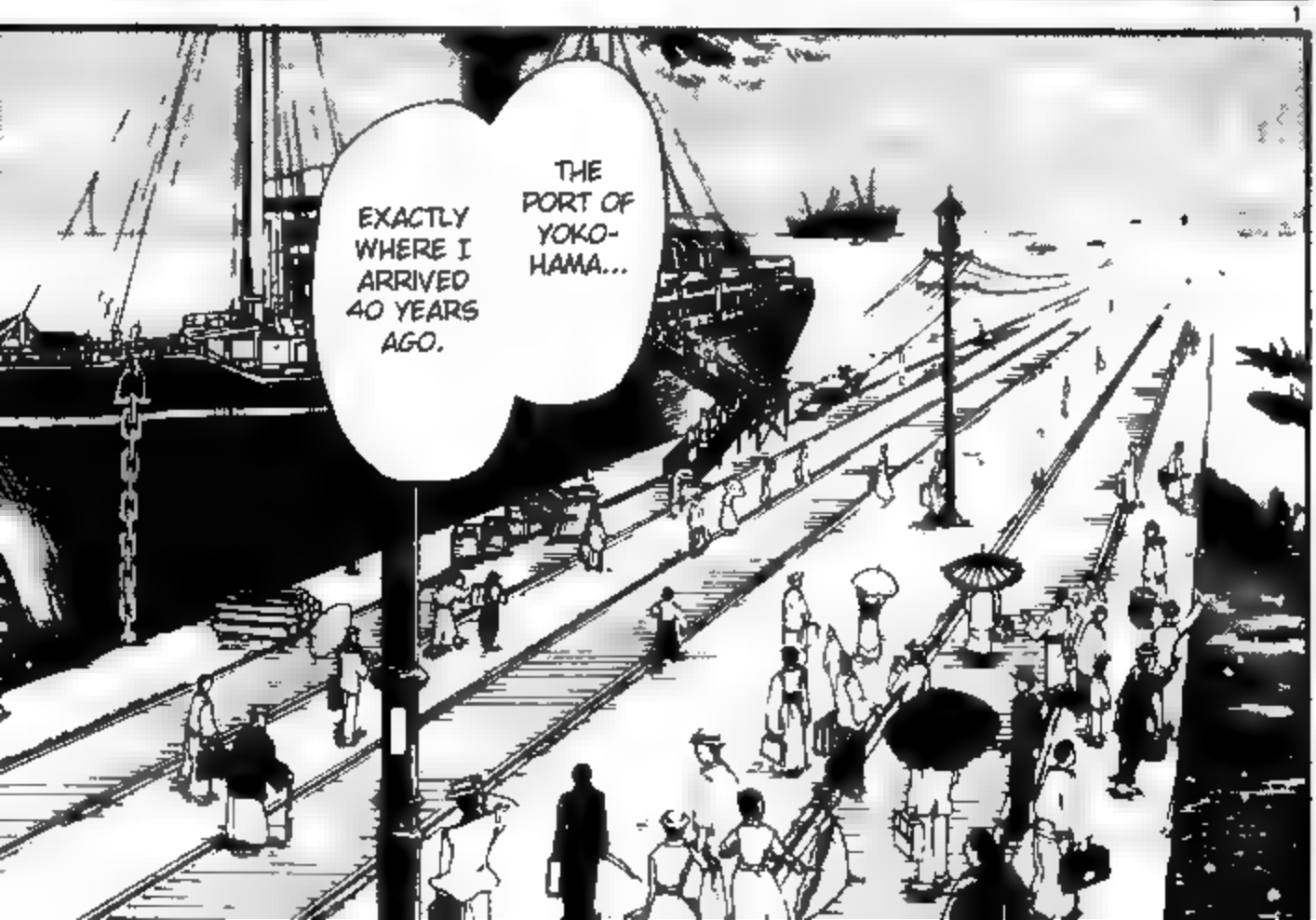
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Act 21
A Visitor to the Meiji Era (II)



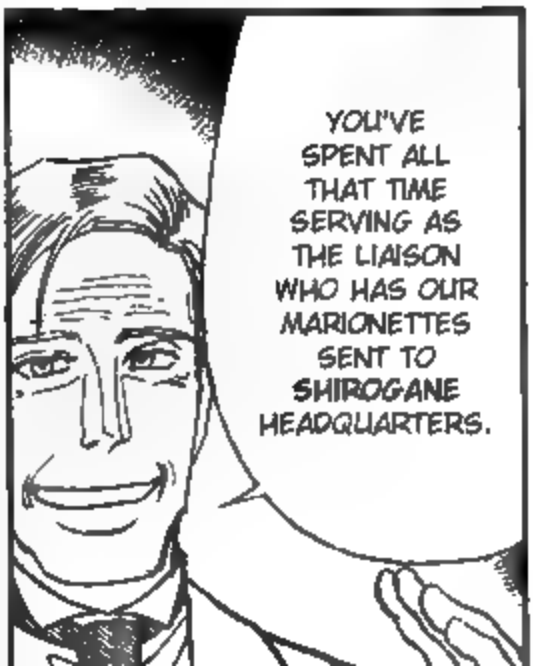
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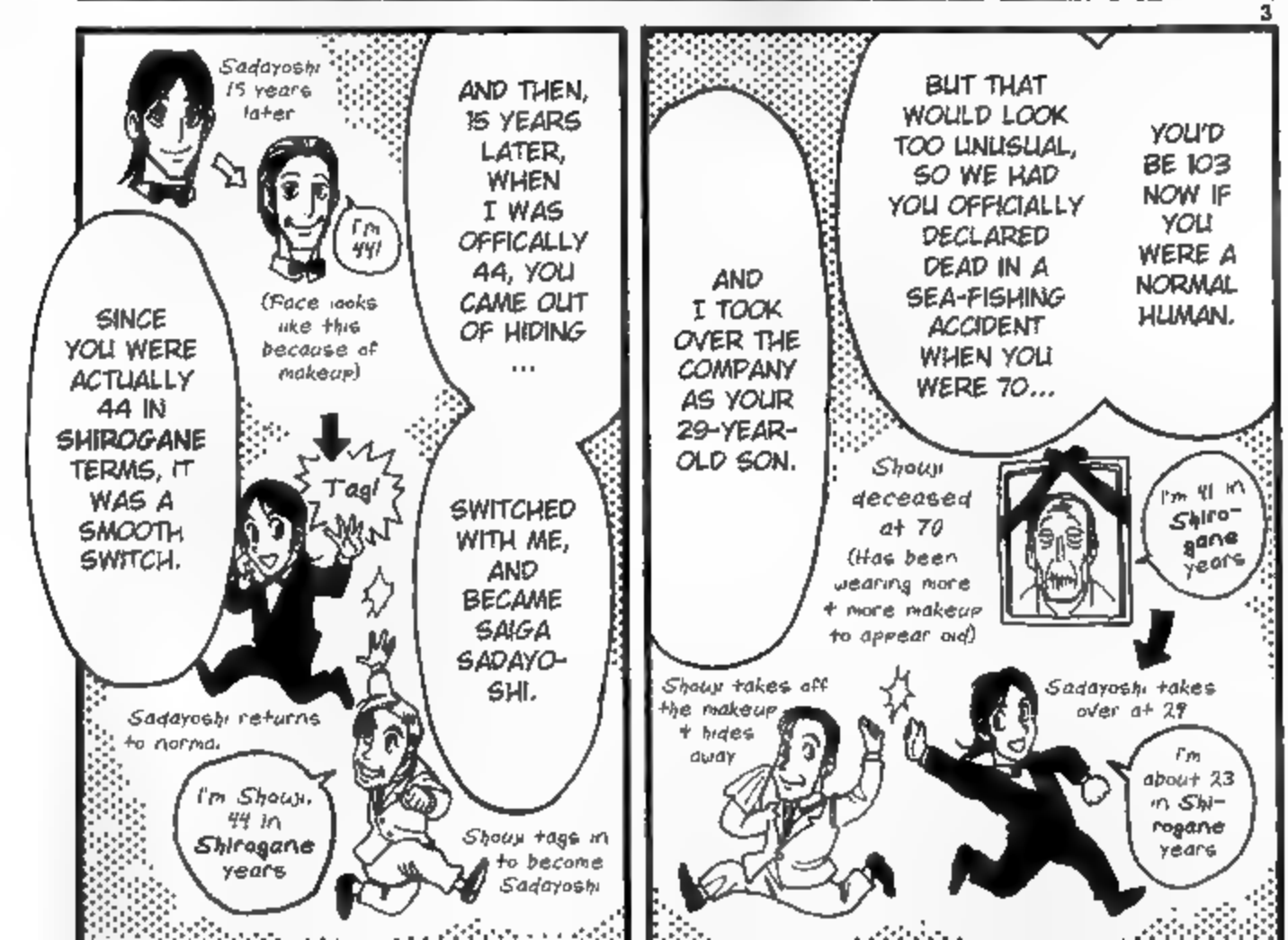

YOU CERTAINLY HAVE, SADA-YOSHI.
SHOUJI?
I'VE SPENT A LONG TIME IN JAPAN, HAVEN'T I...

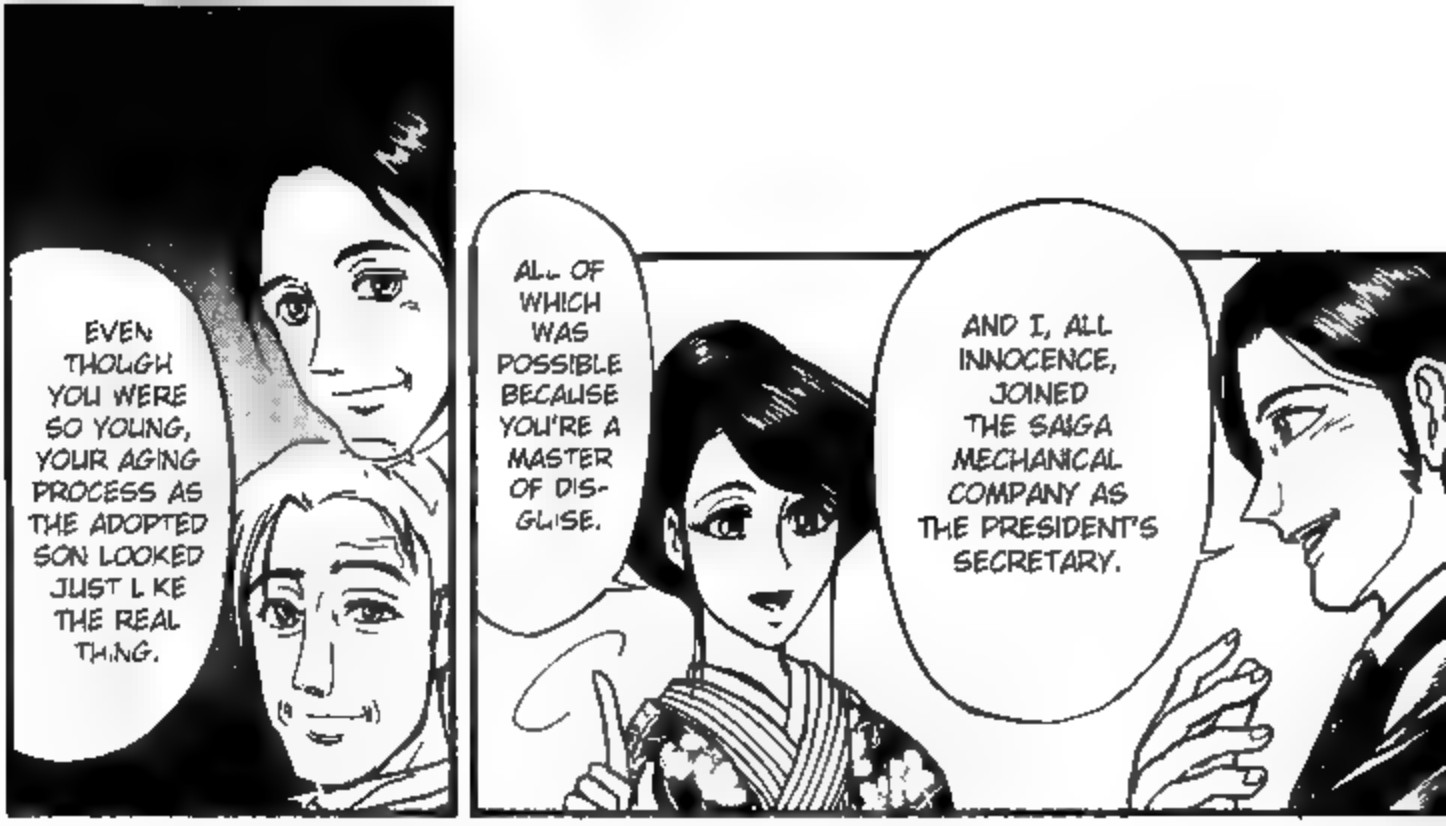
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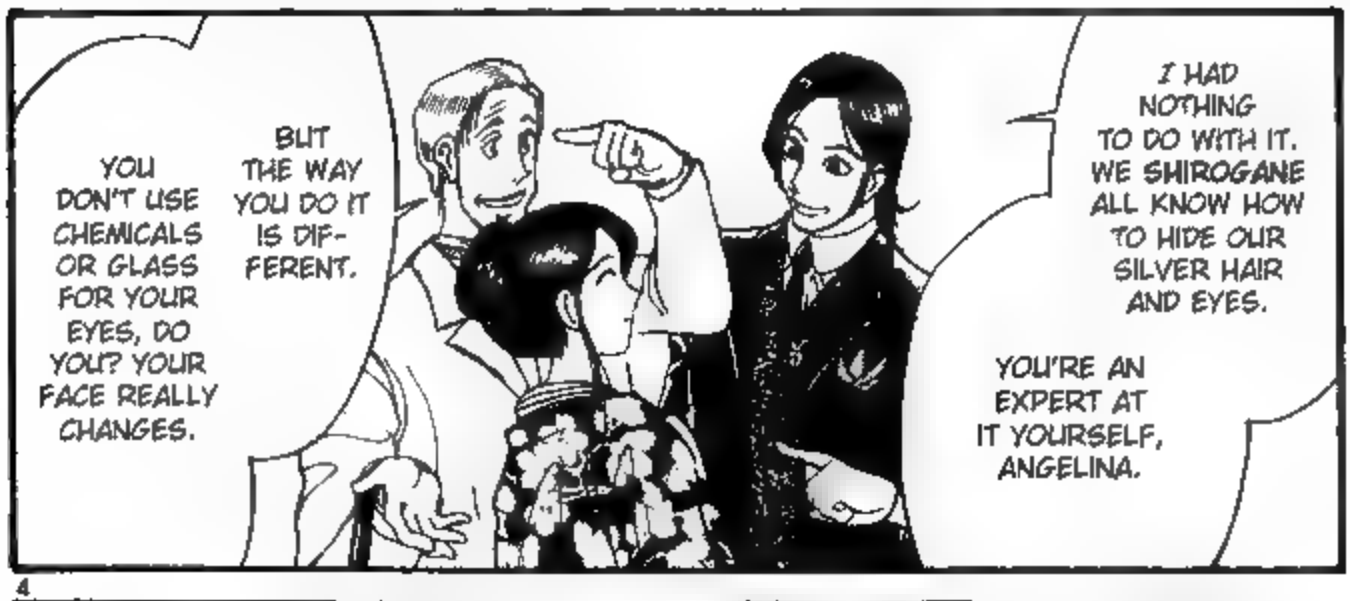

HA HA HA! YOU CAN KEEP USING SADAYOSHI IF YOU WANT.
OH, EXCUSE ME. I SHOULD BE USING YOUR REAL NAME, DEAN MAISTRE!


YOU'VE SPENT ALL THAT TIME SERVING AS THE LIAISON WHO HAS OUR MARIONETTES SENT TO SHIROGANE HEADQUARTERS.


HEE HEE HEE ...
DEAN TURNED INTO YOUR SON SINCE HE WAS ALWAYS AROUND THE SAIGA HOUSEHOLD OVERSEEING THE TRANSPORT OF OUR MARIONETTES.
YOU'RE MY FATHER, AFTER ALL. AND I'M YOUR SON, SADAYOSHI.
OH, IS THAT HOW IT WENT?
EXACTLY! YOU AND I SWITCHED IN AND OUT SO NO ONE WOULD GET SUSPICIOUS WHEN YOU DIDN'T AGE.
SINCE WE SHIROGANE ONLY AGE A YEAR FOR EVERY FIVE WE LIVE...


Sadayoshi 15 years later
I'm 44!
(Face looks like this because of makeup)
SINCE YOU WERE ACTUALLY 44 IN SHIROGANE TERMS, IT WAS A SMOOTH SWITCH.
AND THEN, 15 YEARS LATER, WHEN I WAS OFFICALLY 44, YOU CAME OUT OF HIDING ...
Tag!
SWITCHED WITH ME, AND BECAME SAIGA SADAYOSHI.
Sadayoshi returns to normal
I'm Shouji, 44 in Shirogane years
Shouji tags in to become Sadayoshi
AND I TOOK OVER THE COMPANY AS YOUR 29-YEAR-OLD SON.
BUT THAT WOULD LOOK TOO UNUSUAL, SO WE HAD YOU OFFICIALLY DECLARED DEAD IN A SEA-FISHING ACCIDENT WHEN YOU WERE 70...
YOU'D BE 103 NOW IF YOU WERE A NORMAL HUMAN.
Shouji deceased at 70 (Has been wearing more & more makeup to appear old)
I'm 41 in Shirogane years
Shouji takes off the makeup & hides away
Sadayoshi takes over at 29
I'm about 23 in Shirogane years


EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE SO YOUNG, YOUR AGING PROCESS AS THE ADOPTED SON LOOKED JUST LIKE THE REAL THING.
ALL OF WHICH WAS POSSIBLE BECAUSE YOU'RE A MASTER OF DISGUISE.
AND I, ALL INNOCENCE, JOINED THE SAIGA MECHANICAL COMPANY AS THE PRESIDENT'S SECRETARY.


YOU DON'T USE CHEMICALS OR GLASS FOR YOUR EYES, DO YOU? YOUR FACE REALLY CHANGES.
BUT THE WAY YOU DO IT IS DIFFERENT.
I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT. WE SHIROGANE ALL KNOW HOW TO HIDE OUR SILVER HAIR AND EYES.
YOU'RE AN EXPERT AT IT YOURSELF, ANGELINA.


SAIGA SHOUJI, AT YOUR SERVICE!
くい
THE MAN WHO MADE THE SAIGA MECHANICAL COMPANY NUMBER ONE IN JAPAN...
くい


OH, WELL ...
GUILTY AS CHARGED. WATCH! I'M THE MAN WHO MARRIED THE LOVELIEST OF THE SHIROGANE WOMEN...
ちゅっ

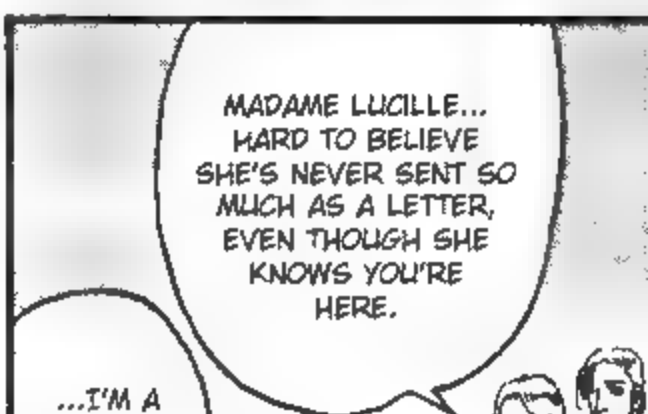

BUT THAT ENDS TODAY, TOO.
I KNOW, BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT PLEASANT TO WATCH.
THAT REALLY S AMA-ZING.
IN SHORT, MY FUN DAYS WITH THE TWO OF YOU ARE AT AN END.
TO LEAVE JAPAN AND BECOME THE COM-MANDING OFFICER FOR A NEW DIVISION OF SHIRO-GANE.
YES... ORDERS FROM SHIROGANE HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, RIGHT?
GOODBYE, JAPAN.
AND I RETURN ONCE MORE TO A LIFE OF DESTROYING AUTOMATA.

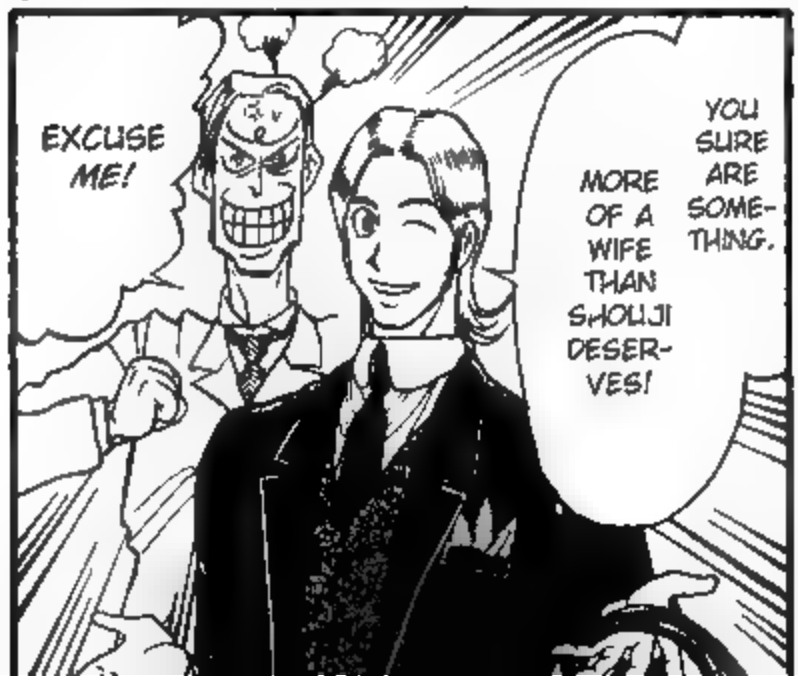

STAY WELL, SADAYOSHI. THANKS FOR EVERYTHING THESE PAST 40 YEARS.
SAME HERE. IT'S BEEN FUN, DAD.


DEAN.
GIVE MY REGARDS TO MY MOTHER.


OH, HOW I HATE THESE MELANCHOLY MOMENTS! HERE COME THE WATERWORKS!
HA HA HA!


I WILL STAY HERE, AND PUT ALL I HAVE INTO BUILDING STRONG MARIONETTES.


MADAME LUCILLE... HARD TO BELIEVE SHE'S NEVER SENT SO MUCH AS A LETTER, EVEN THOUGH SHE KNOWS YOU'RE HERE.
...I'M A TRAITOR WHO FLED AND ABANDONED THE CAUSE. WE EACH KNOW THE OTHER IS ALIVE. THAT'S ENOUGH.


EXCUSE ME!
YOU SURE ARE SOMETHING.
MORE OF A WIFE THAN SHOUJI DESERVES!


I HOPE THAT BABY GROWS UP HAPPY AND HEALTHY.
SORRY, SORRY, JUST A JOKE.
I'VE GOTTA GO!
YES... THANK YOU, DEAN.
GOOD-BYYYE!
ジャン
ジャン
BORN TO THE VERY FIRST SHIROGANE COUPLE! HA HA HA!
GOOD LUCK TO THE BABY...


THERE HE GOES...
YES.
WELL ...
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.
LET'S SEE NOW. IS THE BLEACHED COTTON CLOTH IN HERE? DID YOU PACK A CHANGE OF SANDALS?
SIR, WE DID PACK THE LUGGAGE VERY CAREFULLY...
NO, NO, NO, YOU CAN NEVER BE TOO CAREFUL!


I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU IT'S REALLY TOO EARLY TO BE HEADING HOME TO GIVE BIRTH. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO INSISTED...
BUT I'M WORRIED!
DEAR, YOU'RE DISTURBING THE OTHER PASSENGERS.
NOT ONE THING CAN BE LACKING WHEN MY WIFE RETURNS TO HER HOME VILLAGE TO GIVE BIRTH!

The timing isn't exactly up to me
Don't have the baby until I get there
I CAN'T GET AWAY FROM TOKYO RIGHT NOW, BUT AS SOON AS AUTUMN COMES I'LL BE FREE OF WORK AND ON MY WAY.
I CAN'T POSSIBLY EAT ALL THAT.
EXACTLY! YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN TO STOP PUSHING YOURSELF. GOT TO GET YOU PACKED OFF TO THE COUNTRYSIDE TO TAKE IT EASY!
HERE, TAKE THESE TOO!


APPARENTLY IT'S A LITTLE VILLAGE OF PUPPETEERS IN THE KINAI REGION. I BELIEVE THE NAME IS—
I DON'T QUITE RECALL WHERE MILADY SAID SHE WAS HEADED ...
You're years too early, dear.
YOU DON'T OFTEN SEE SUCH A PAIR OF LOVE-BIRDS.
I've never seen a man act this way before
THE MASTER IS SO EXCITED.
YOU'RE GETTING AHEAD OF YOURSELF AGAIN!


I'LL GO ON AHEAD TO KUROGA VILLAGE, THEN. THOUGH I HATE TO GO ALONE.
MAKE SURE TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, DEAR.
AND DON'T YOU LIFT ANYTHING TOO HEAVY. TAKE IT EASY!




WITH THE BANK NEGOTIATIONS WRAPPED UP, I BELIEVE I'LL HEAD HOME FOR THE DAY.
WE'LL HAVE A CAR SENT ROUND FOR YOU.

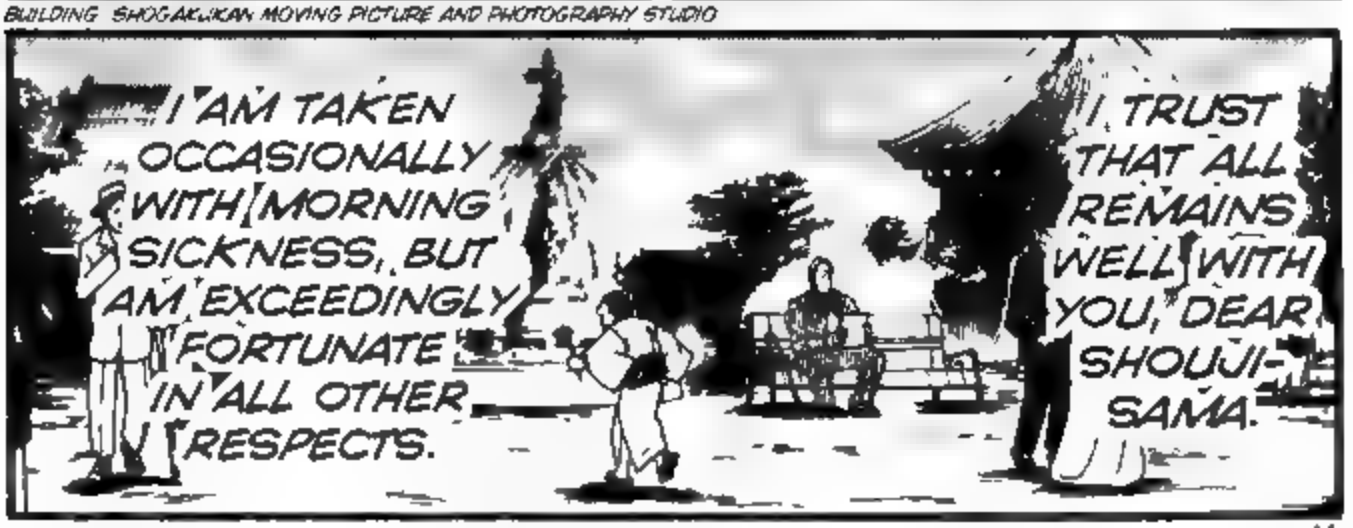

...TWO MONTHS LATER.

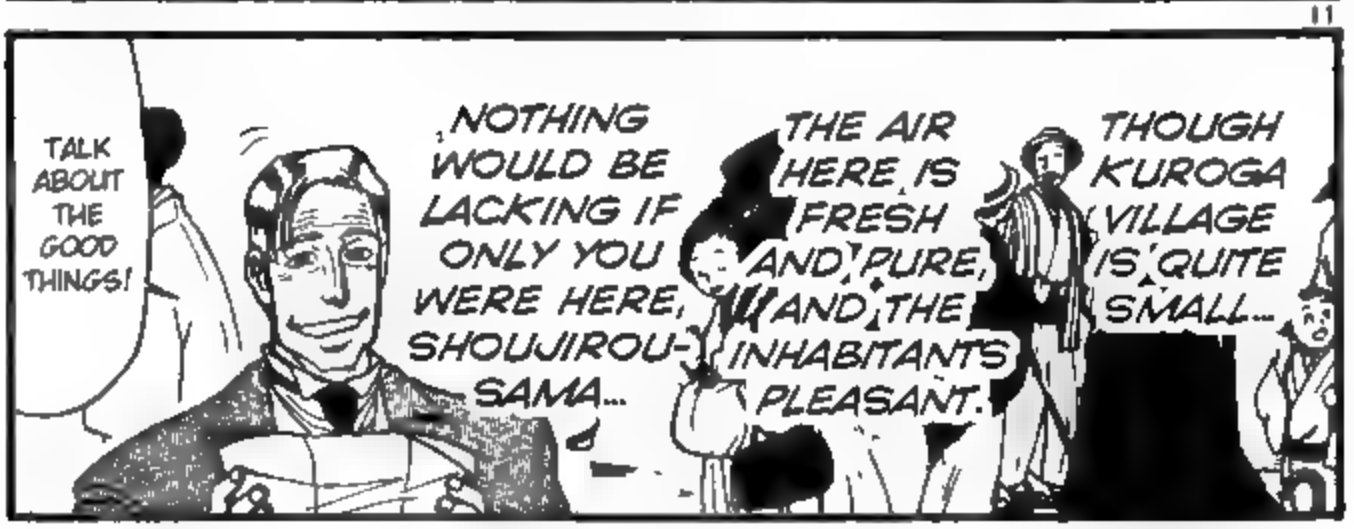


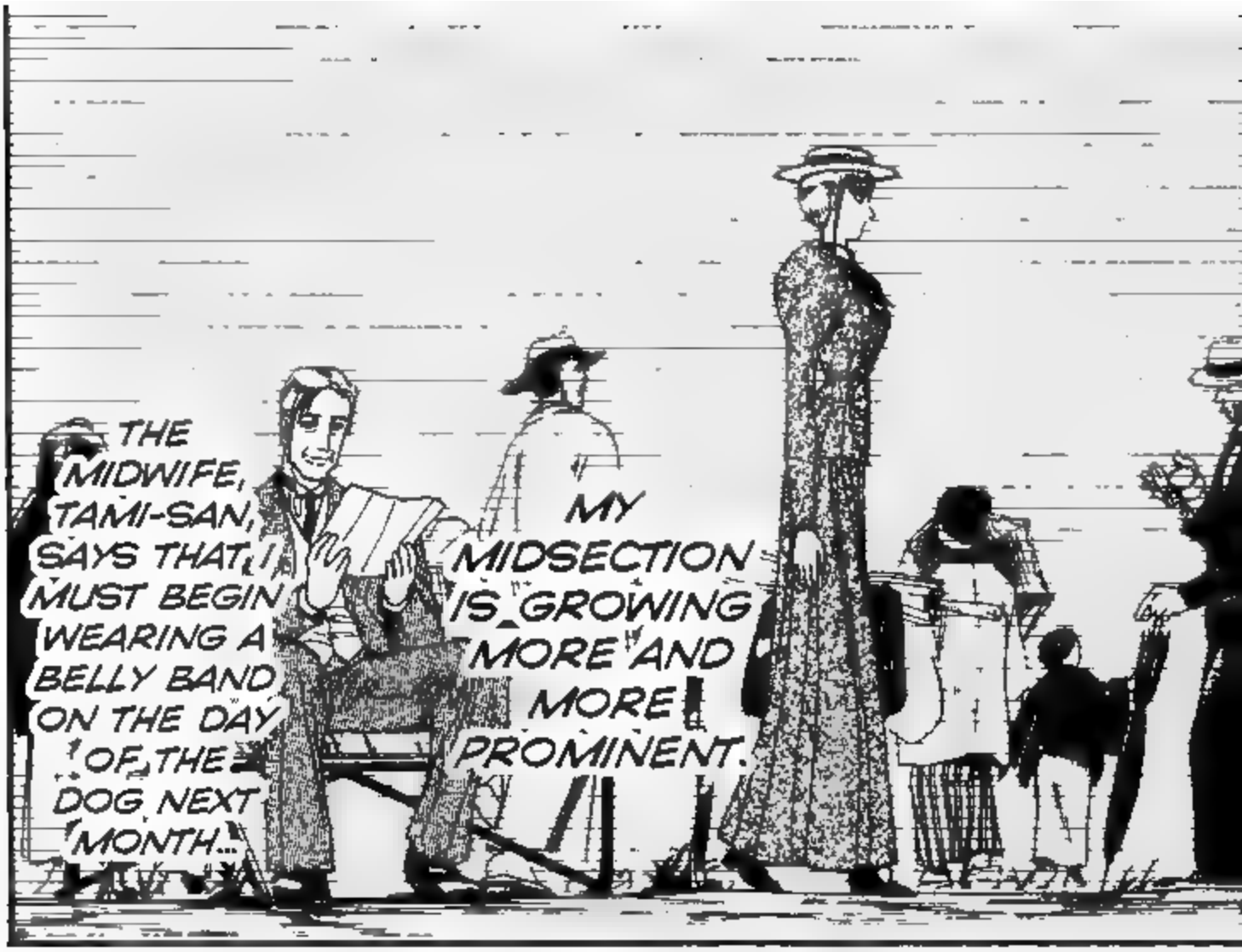




BUILDING SHOGAKUKAN MOVING PICTURE AND PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO


I AM TAKEN OCCASIONALLY WITH MORNING SICKNESS, BUT AM EXCEEDINGLY FORTUNATE IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS.
I TRUST THAT ALL REMAINS WELL WITH YOU, DEAR SHOUJI-SAMA.


TALK ABOUT THE GOOD THINGS!
NOTHING WOULD BE LACKING IF ONLY YOU WERE HERE, SHOUJIROU-SAMA...
THE AIR HERE IS FRESH AND PURE, AND THE INHABITANTS PLEASANT.
THOUGH KUROGA VILLAGE IS QUITE SMALL...


THE MIDWIFE, TAMI-SAN, SAYS THAT I MUST BEGIN WEARING A BELLY BAND ON THE DAY OF THE DOG NEXT MONTH...
MY MIDSECTION IS GROWING MORE AND MORE PROMINENT.

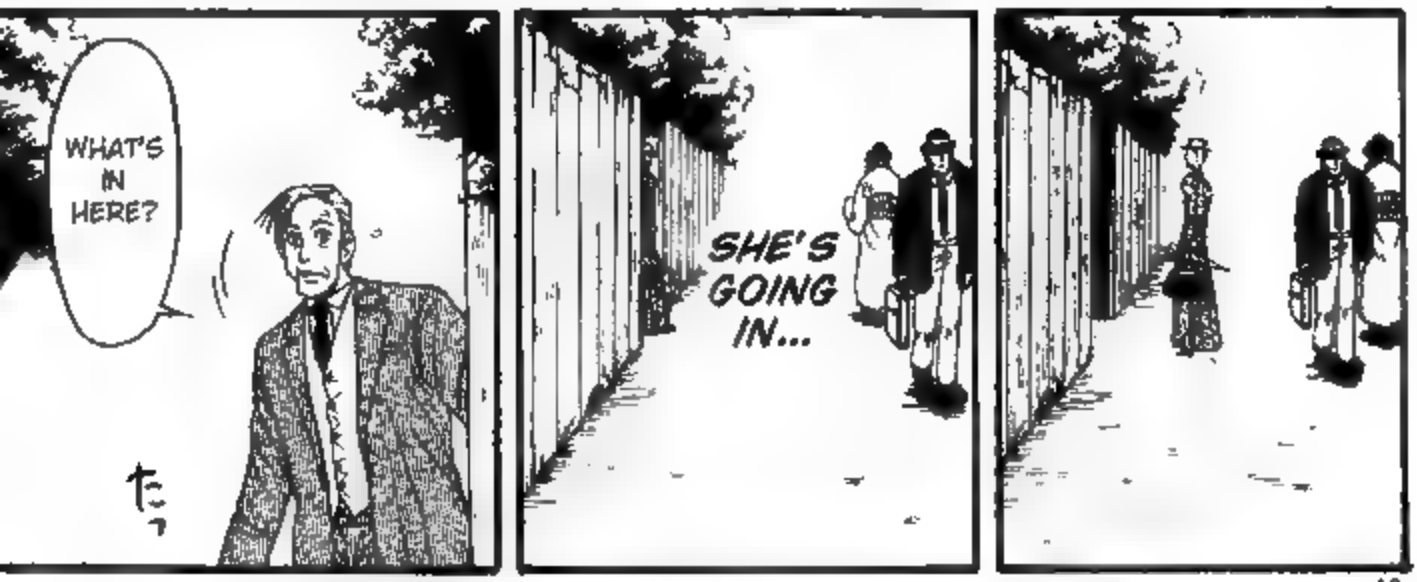

AN-GE-LI-NA?


!

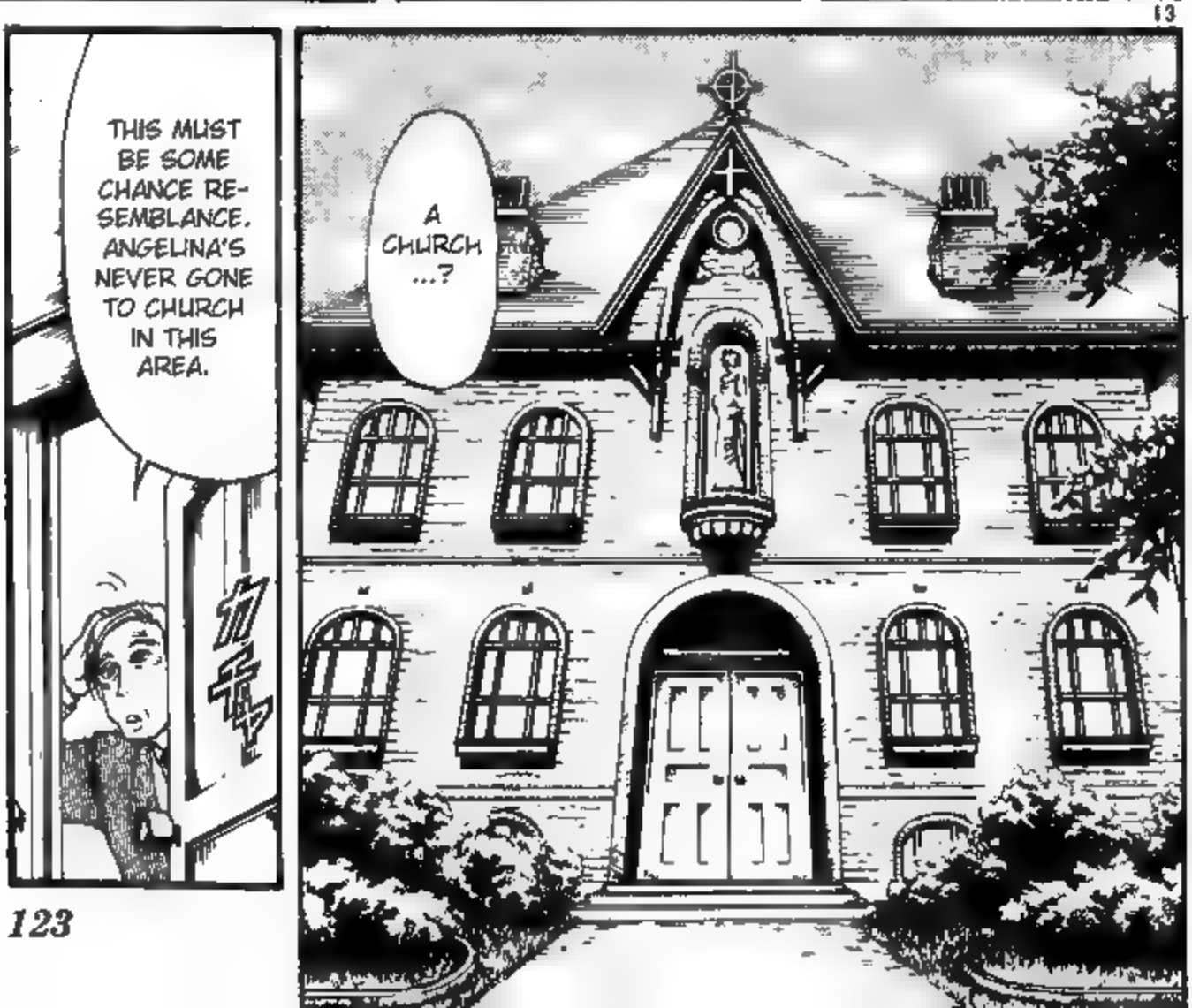

AND THOSE WESTERN CLOTHES ...
BUT THAT SILVER HAIR ...

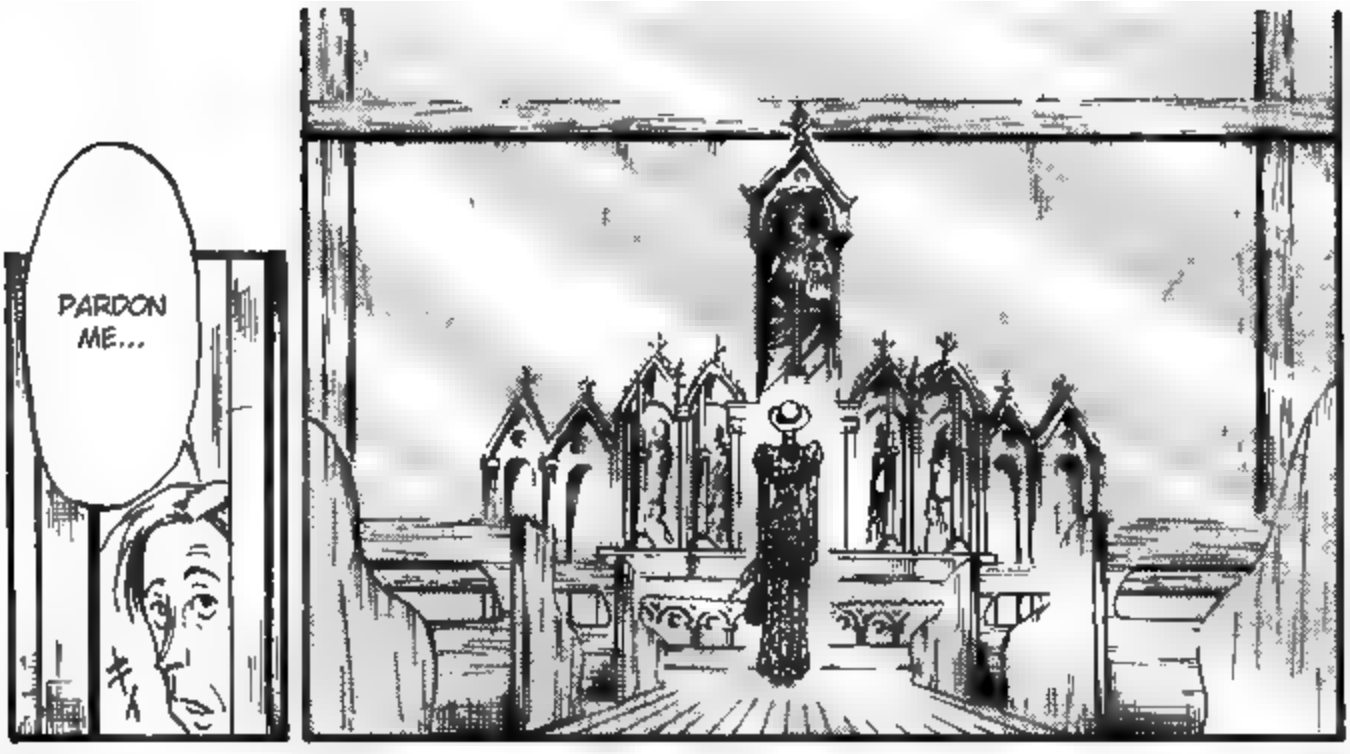

NO, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! ANGELINA IS IN KUROGA VILLAGE RIGHT NOW. I HAVE HER LETTER RIGHT HERE.


HEY, YOU! THAT HURT!
THEN WHO ELSE COULD IT POSSIBLY BE?!
どん
WATCH IT, PAL!
IF THAT ISN'T ANGE-LINA...


WHAT'S IN HERE?
たっ
SHE'S GOING IN...

13


THIS MUST BE SOME CHANCE RE-SEMBLANCE. ANGELINA'S NEVER GONE TO CHURCH IN THIS AREA.
ガチャ
A CHURCH ...?


PARDON ME...

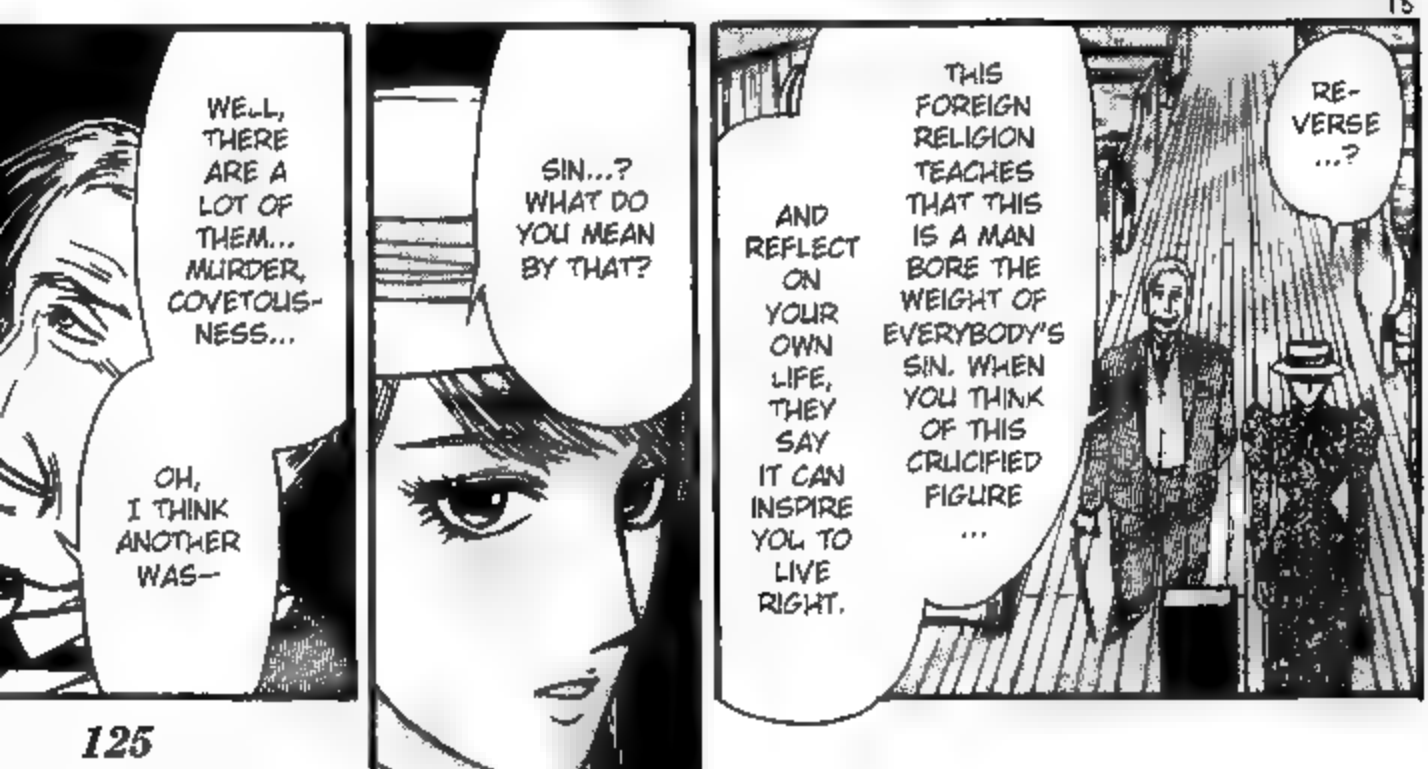

ER...
DO PEOPLE DECORATE HIGH PLACES WITH THIS SUFFERING FIGURE?
WHY ...


ARE YOU ASKING ME?
IN MY JOURNEY, I HAVE SEEN A GREAT MANY SUCH FIGURES.


WHEN THEY LOOK UPON THIS UNMOVING DOLL...
DO HUMANS THINK OF THINGS THAT CAUSE THEM TO SMILE?
THEY ARE PLACED SO AS TO BE VISIBLE TO EVERYBODY.

BUT I'M FAIRLY SURE PEOPLE DON'T FIND THIS SOMETHING TO SMILE AT. JUST THE REVERSE, IN FACT.
WELL, NOW, UH, I'M NOT EXACTLY AN EXPERT...
BUT THIS IS A DIFFERENT PERSON. .
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?! SHE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE ANGELINA!

15


WELL, THERE ARE A LOT OF THEM... MURDER, COVETOUSNESS...
OH, I THINK ANOTHER WAS—
SIN...? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
AND REFLECT ON YOUR OWN LIFE, THEY SAY IT CAN INSPIRE YOU TO LIVE RIGHT.
THIS FOREIGN RELIGION TEACHES THAT THIS IS A MAN BORE THE WEIGHT OF EVERYBODY'S SIN. WHEN YOU THINK OF THIS CRUCIFIED FIGURE ...
RE-VERSE ...?


"MAKE UNTO THEE NO IMAGES OF WORDLY THINGS." SOMETHING LIKE THAT...


I SEE ...
SO DOLLS ARE A SIN...


WELLLL, THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO IMITATE HUMANS, SO...
SORRY, I MIGHT HAVE RE-MEMBERED THAT ONE WRONG.

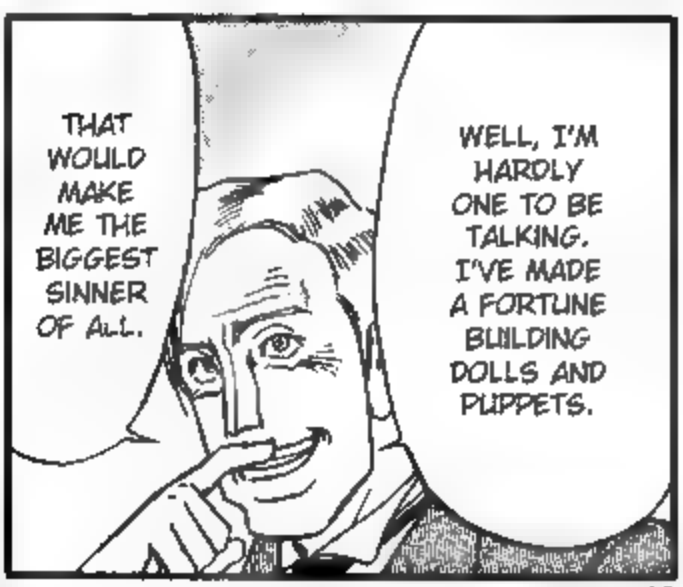



DOES THAT ... IN-CLUDE DOLLS ...?


SHE HAD A LOOK ON HER FACE AS IF SHE HAD LOST EVERY-THING.
SHE STOOD THERE, ROOTED TO THE SPOT.
FOR SOME REASON ...




THE HUMAN NAMED SAIGA ANGELINA ...


THAT WOULD MAKE ME THE BIGGEST SINNER OF ALL.
WELL, I'M HARDLY ONE TO BE TALKING. I'VE MADE A FORTUNE BUILDING DOLLS AND PUPPETS.


THEN PERHAPS YOU KNOW ...
YOU BUILD DOLLS?


AND THAT FAINT SOUND OF MACHINERY IN MOTION... DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE—
HOW DO YOU KNOW ANGE-LINA?!
WHO ARE YOU?!
18
AND I'M ANGE-LINA'S HUS-BAND!
WELL, MY NAME IS SAIGA SHOUJI!
I AM THE AUTO-MATON FRAN-CINE.
I...
I... HAVE COME HERE IN ORDER TO MEET THIS PERSON.

translation by funnuraba tumblr com

NOTES:

pg. 9: The tradition of returning to one's parent's home after the wedding, or to give birth, was called *satogaeri*. (My guess is that the other passengers are so taken aback, and Angelina is embarrassed, because they're taking *satogaeri* to mean the trip home right after the wedding, but Shouji also mentions giving birth, i.e., it sounds like she's a newlywed who got pregnant so early that this trip will combine both meanings of the word.)

pg. 9: The little outfit with 金 (*kin*) on it is the haragake worn by the fairy tale character Kintarou, something for a little boy (not a baby) on Children's Day (celebrated as Boys Day back in 1909.) Kintarou is very popular on Children's Day as a doll and in various other forms, he encourages boys to grow up strong.

pg. 11: Shogakukan is the publishing house that puts out Shounen Sunday, the magazine in which Karakuri Circus ran, and handles all of Fujita's shounen works.

pg. 12: The day of the dog comes every 12 days, and in their fifth and ninth months of pregnancy women traditionally visit a shrine on one of those days to pray for safe and easy delivery (like that of a dog delivering a litter). The day of the dog is also the proper time to start wearing a maternity bellyband (*hara-obi*) to keep your belly warm.

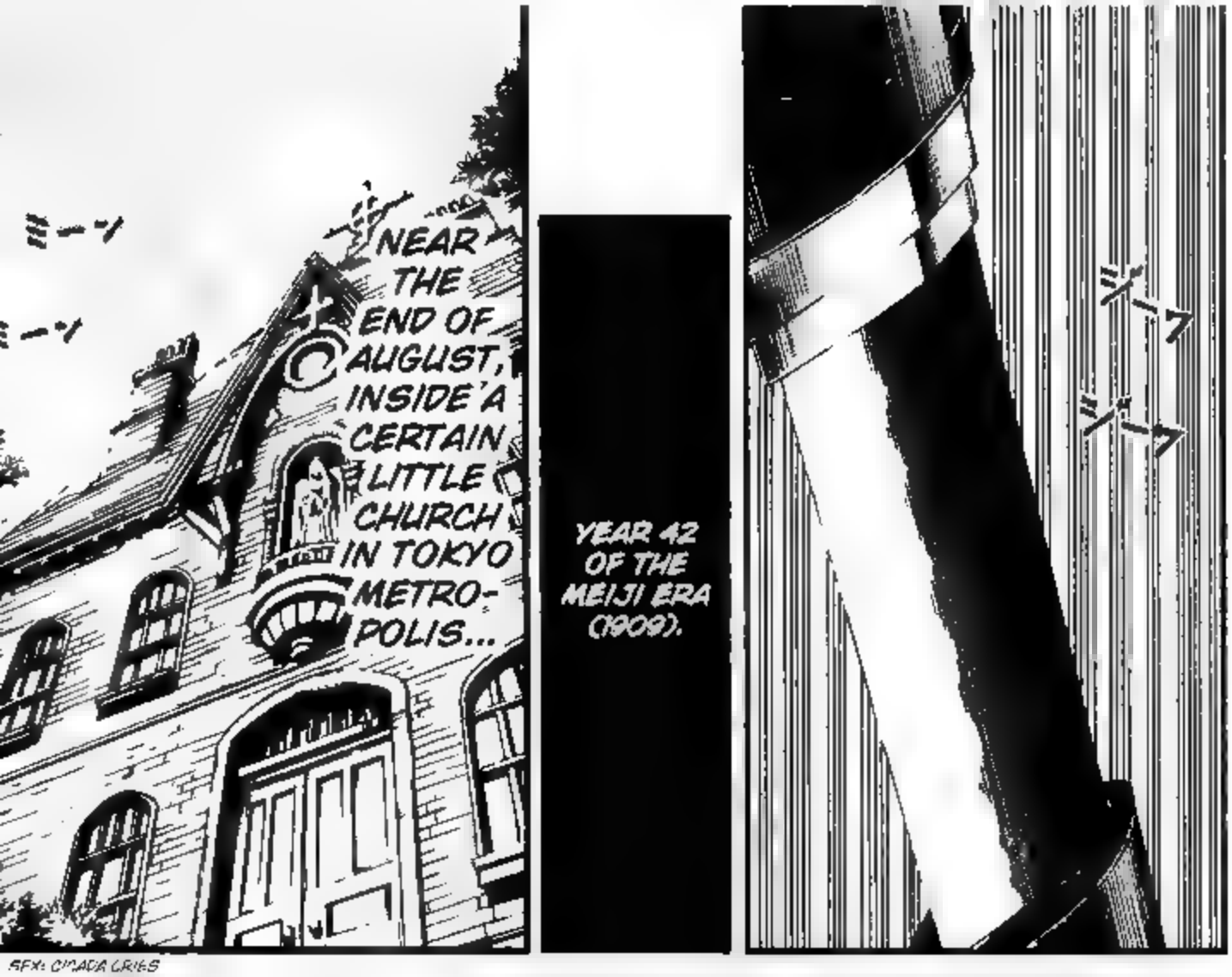
pg. 18: The personal pronoun Doll Francine uses is *watakushi*; it's emphasized because this is the first time she's actually used it while speaking to Shouji. In context, it gives her sort of a stately and imposing sound, in contrast to the previous tone of the conversation.

In October of 2016, Kodansha USA will be releasing the first volume of Fujita's seinen series **Black Museum. The Ghost and the Lady!** The second and final volume will follow in December. If you're enjoying *Karakuri Circus*, this is a great opportunity to show your support for the creator and show that there's a market for his work over here! Full disclosure: his shounen series are published through Shogakukan (i.e., Viz) so buying this release is not a direct pipeline to licenses for them. However, this is the first of Fujita's manga *ever* to be licensed in English since he debuted in 1989. Sentai Filmworks will also be releasing their dub and subs of the *Ushio and Tora* anime at some point, which is another great way to show your support. Please remember that each chapter of this manga represents an entire work week for Fujita and his assistants, and they deserve to be paid for their work in whatever way possible!

These scanlations have been uploaded *only* to Batoto so that I can remove them if the series is ever licensed. Please read them there instead of on websites that rip them and watermark them to make a profit off your views!

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.



Act 22
Doll Francine



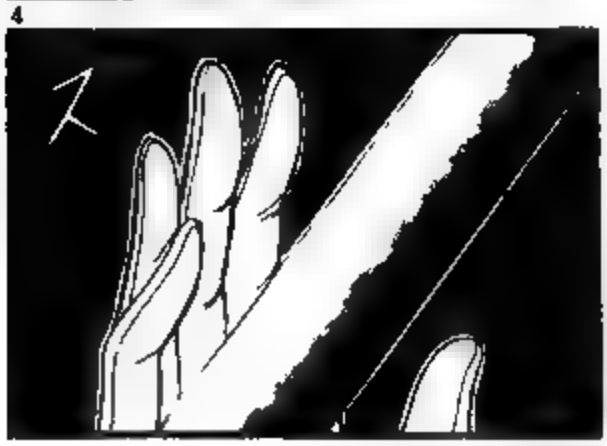

DOLL FRAN-CINE.
I AM FRAN-CINE
JUST AS YOU SAY


WITH MY WIFE ANGE-LINA?!
WHAT DO YOU WANT...

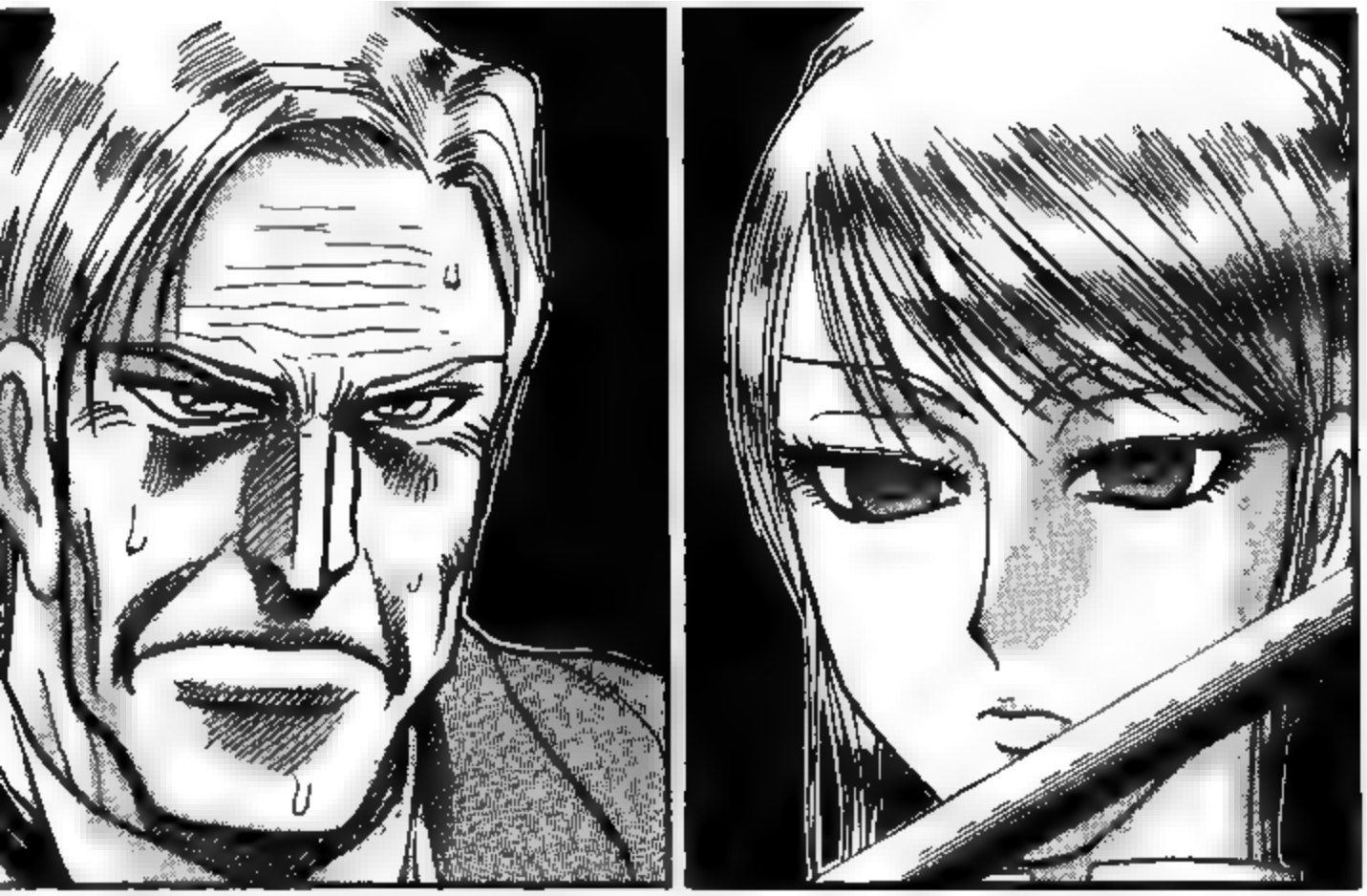

WHAT ...?!
TO BE FRANK, I AM NOT HERE ON ANY BUSINESS WITH HER IN PARTICULAR.


I CAME HERE TO HAVE MY BODY DISMANTLED. IT MATTERS NOT WHO DOES THE DEED.
IF YOU ARE THE ONE WHO BUILDS THE SHIROGANE THEIR MARIONETTES, THEN IT WILL DO JUST AS WELL...
FOR YOU TO DESTROY ME RIGHT HERE.

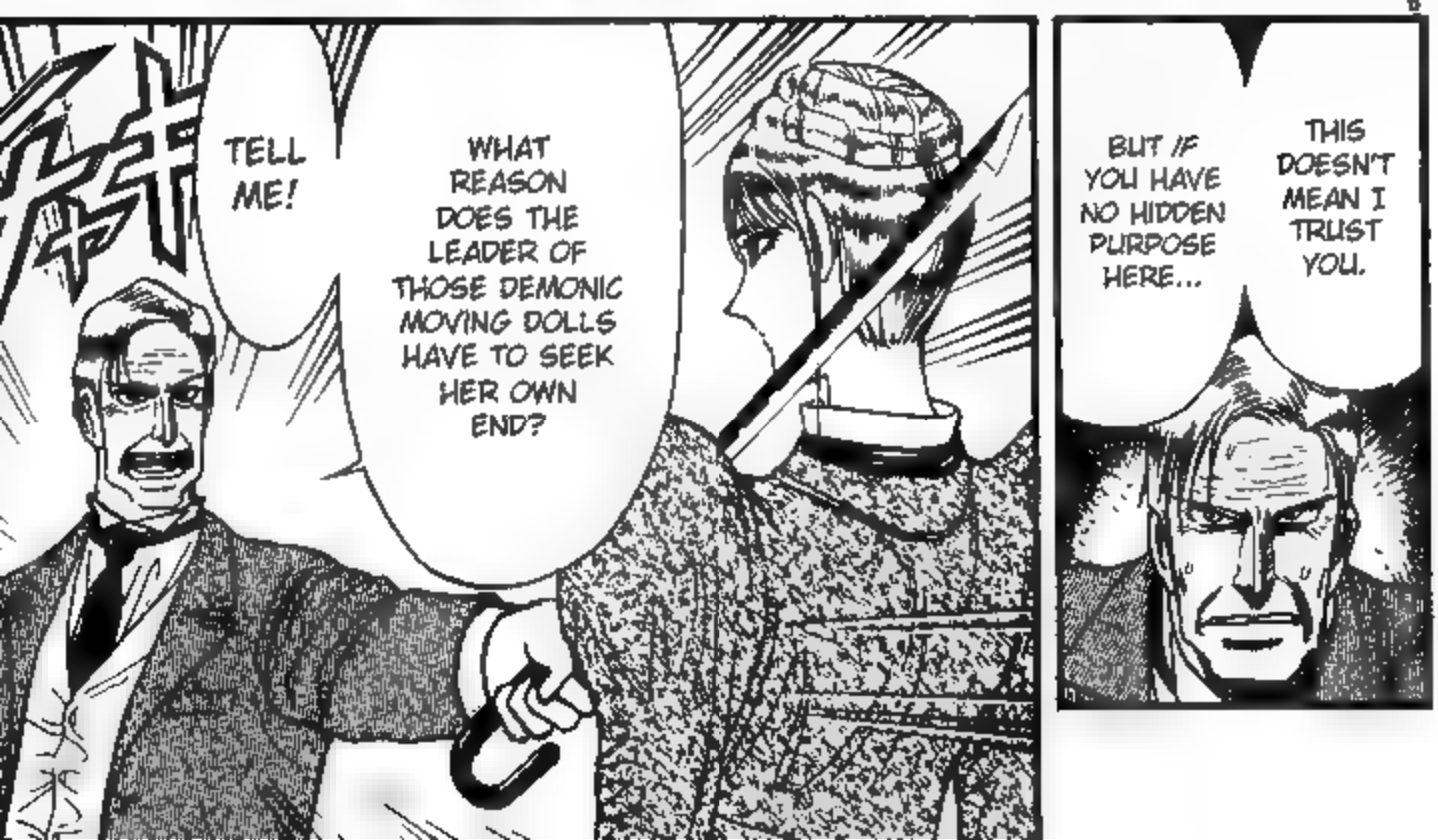

DO YOU REALLY THINK I'LL BELIEVE THE WORDS OF THE AUTOMATA'S LEADER SO EASILY!?
WHAT ARE YOU SCHEMING ...?



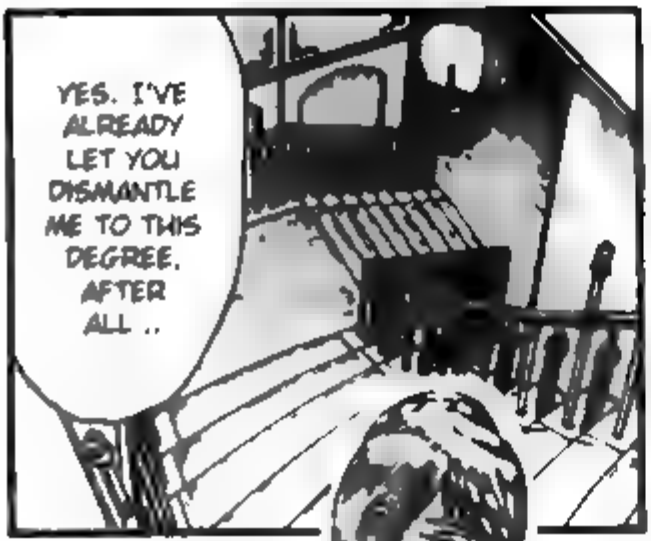

CUT OFF MY HEAD, THEN. RIGHT NOW, WITH THIS SWORD.




ス…


TELL ME!
WHAT REASON DOES THE LEADER OF THOSE DEMONIC MOVING DOLLS HAVE TO SEEK HER OWN END?
BUT IF YOU HAVE NO HIDDEN PURPOSE HERE...
THIS DOESN'T MEAN I TRUST YOU.




YES. I'VE ALREADY LET YOU DISMANTLE ME TO THIS DEGREE. AFTER ALL ..


ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO LET ME DO THIS?


THEN I'LL BEGIN BY DOWN-GRADING YOUR STRENGTH AND SPEED TO A HUMAN LEVEL


MY BODY IS THE HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT OF MY CREATOR'S SACRED ART. I AM INCAPABLE OF TOUCHING ITS INTERIOR.
HAVE NO FEAR THAT I MAY REPAIR THESE CHANGES.
CUTTING THE STEEL WIRES ...
DISCONNECTING THE ARM AND LEG JOINTS FROM THEIR GEARS, LOOSENING THE SCREWS ...
YES, I CAN SEE THAT THE ONE WHO BUILT YOU WAS A MASTER OF HIS CRAFT.
カチャ
SACRED ART, YOU CALL IT...
7
ヒョオオオオ
WOULD NOT KEEP ME BY HIS SIDE.
BUT MY CREATOR...
YES.


YOU ARE NOT FRAN-CINE!
YOU WOULDN'T LAUGH FOR ME!
YOU'RE JUST A SOUL-LESS TOY!
DOES THIS HURT?! IT SHOULD! TOY YOU MAY BE, BUT I BUILT YOU TO DRAW BREATH JUST LIKE FRANCINE!
GOOD-BYE, DOLL!
GOODBYE, FALSE FRANCINE!


CREA-
TOR!!
PLEASE DON'T ABANDON ME.
PLEASE DON'T, LEAVE ME ALONE IN THIS FIELD OF MUSTARD BLOSSOMS.
IF IT DIS-PLEASES YOU THAT I DO NOT LAUGH
THEN I WILL STUDY FUNNY THINGS.


ALONE IN THE NIGHT BENEATH THE POUNDING RAIN AND THE GROANING WIND.
PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME HERE TO CRUMBLE AWAY...
MY CREATOR
YOUR INSTRUCTIONS
I NEED

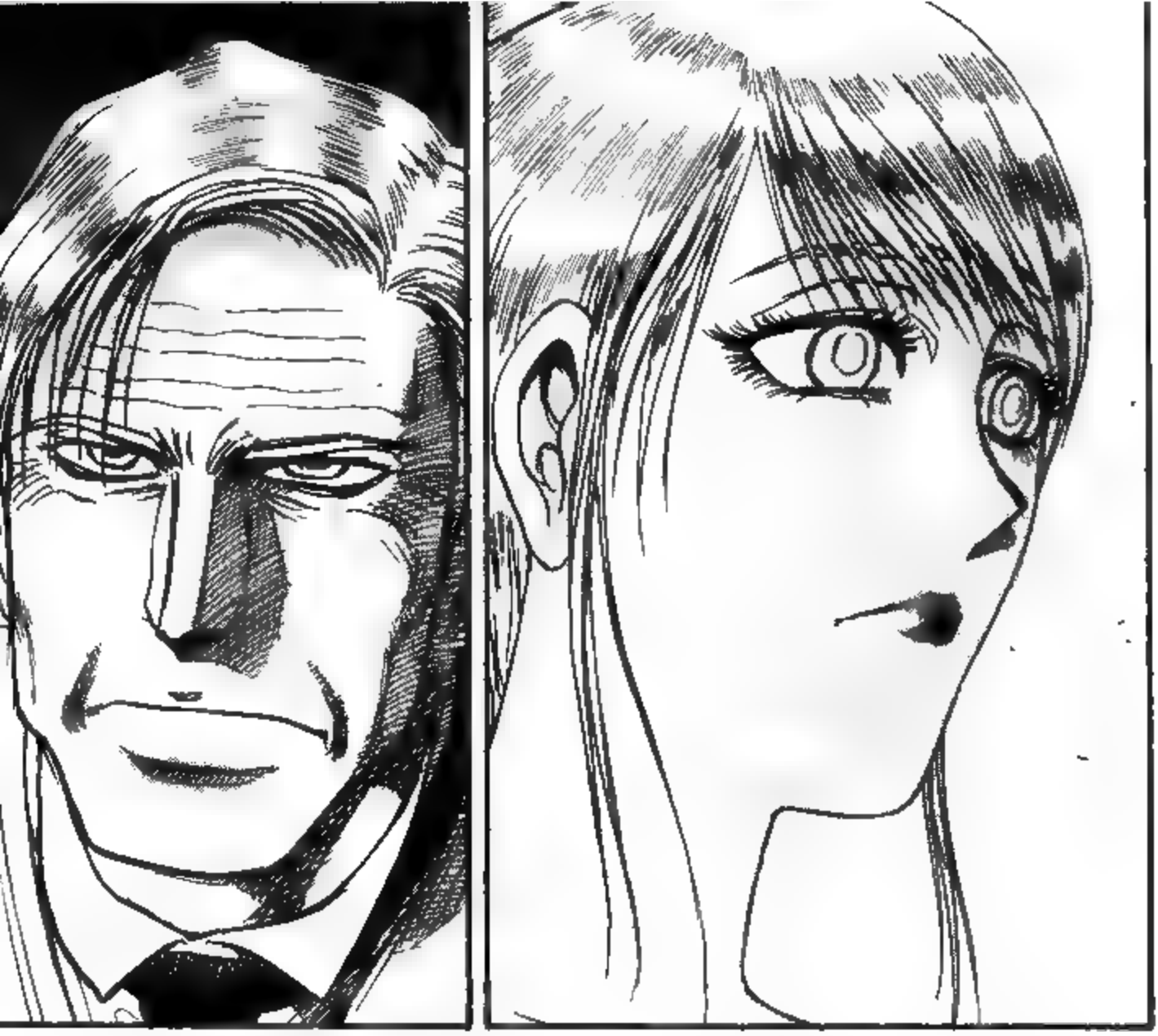

THE REASON MY CREATOR LEFT ME WAS THAT I COULD NOT LAUGH MY AIM WAS TO CHANGE THAT
YES

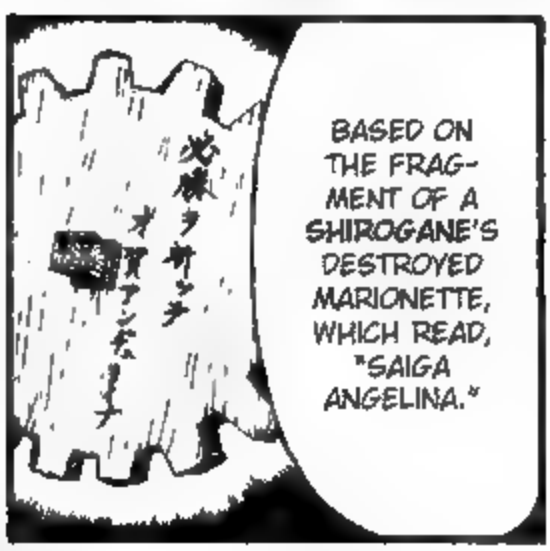

AND WHEN YOU AWOKE YOU SET OUT ON A JOURNEY

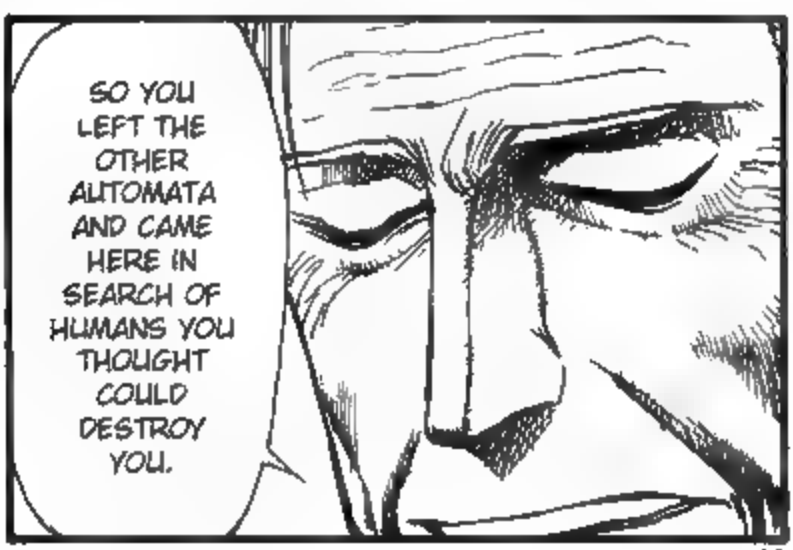

I STUDIED ALCHEMY FROM THE BOOKS AND NOTES MY CREATOR LEFT BEHIND, AND USED THAT TO REVIVE THEM.
THE FOUR ALTOMATA TRAVELED WITH ME.
PLEASE COME WITH ME, AND SEARCH FOR THIS METHOD.
IF I AM ABLE TO LAUGH, OUR CREATOR WILL SURELY RETURN TO ME.
I AM SETTING OUT ON A JOURNEY TO DISCOVER A WAY TO LAUGH.
THE ALTOMATA'S ONLY GOAL WAS TO MAKE ME LAUGH.
WE BUILT MANY OTHER COMPANIONS OVER THE LONG YEARS ...
AND TRAVELED ON IN OUR SEARCH.


DID WE FIND A WAY.
BUT NEVER, IN THAT JOURNEY OF TWO HUNDRED YEARS


NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE MADE HUMANS SUFFER.
NO MATTER HOW BIZARRE THE FORMS OF THE DOLLS WHO DANCED BEFORE ME.
IS THE WORD YOU HUMANS USE.
I AM...
TIRED, I BELIEVE...
12
I FOUND NOTHING FUNNY.
BUT EVEN AFTER TWO HUNDRED YEARS...
THE AUTOMATA TRIED CONSTANTLY TO MAKE ME LAUGH OR SMILE



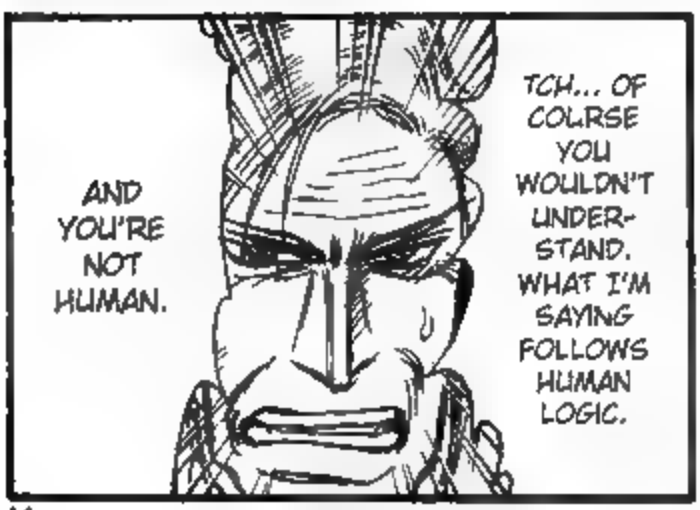

BASED ON THE FRAGMENT OF A SHIROGANE'S DESTROYED MARIONETTE, WHICH READ, "SAIGA ANGELINA."


SO YOU LEFT THE OTHER AUTOMATA AND CAME HERE IN SEARCH OF HUMANS YOU THOUGHT COULD DESTROY YOU.


AND RIGHT NOW...


SO I KNOW JUST WHAT KIND OF TERRIBLE THINGS YOU CREATURES HAVE DONE TO HUMANS.
I INHERITED SHIROGANE'S MEMORIES AFTER DRINKING AQUA VITAE.


I'M ITCHING TO TEACH YOU, WITH THESE VERY HANDS...
JUST HOW MISGUIDED AND SELFISH THOSE DEEDS WERE!


AND YOU'RE NOT HUMAN.
TCH... OF COURSE YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT I'M SAYING FOLLOWS HUMAN LOGIC.


WHATEVER DO YOU MEAN?
MISGUIDED? SELFISH?

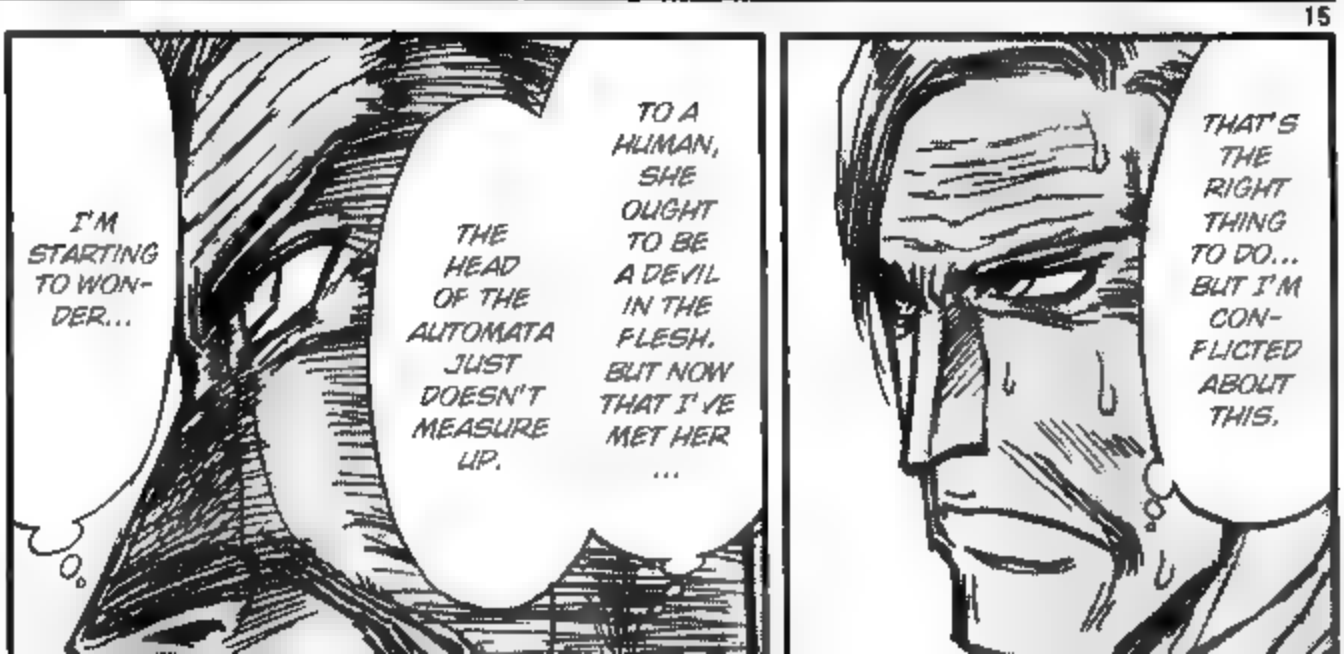

I NEVER HAD THE ZONAPHA SYNDROME THAT YOU AND YOUR DOLLS SPREAD.

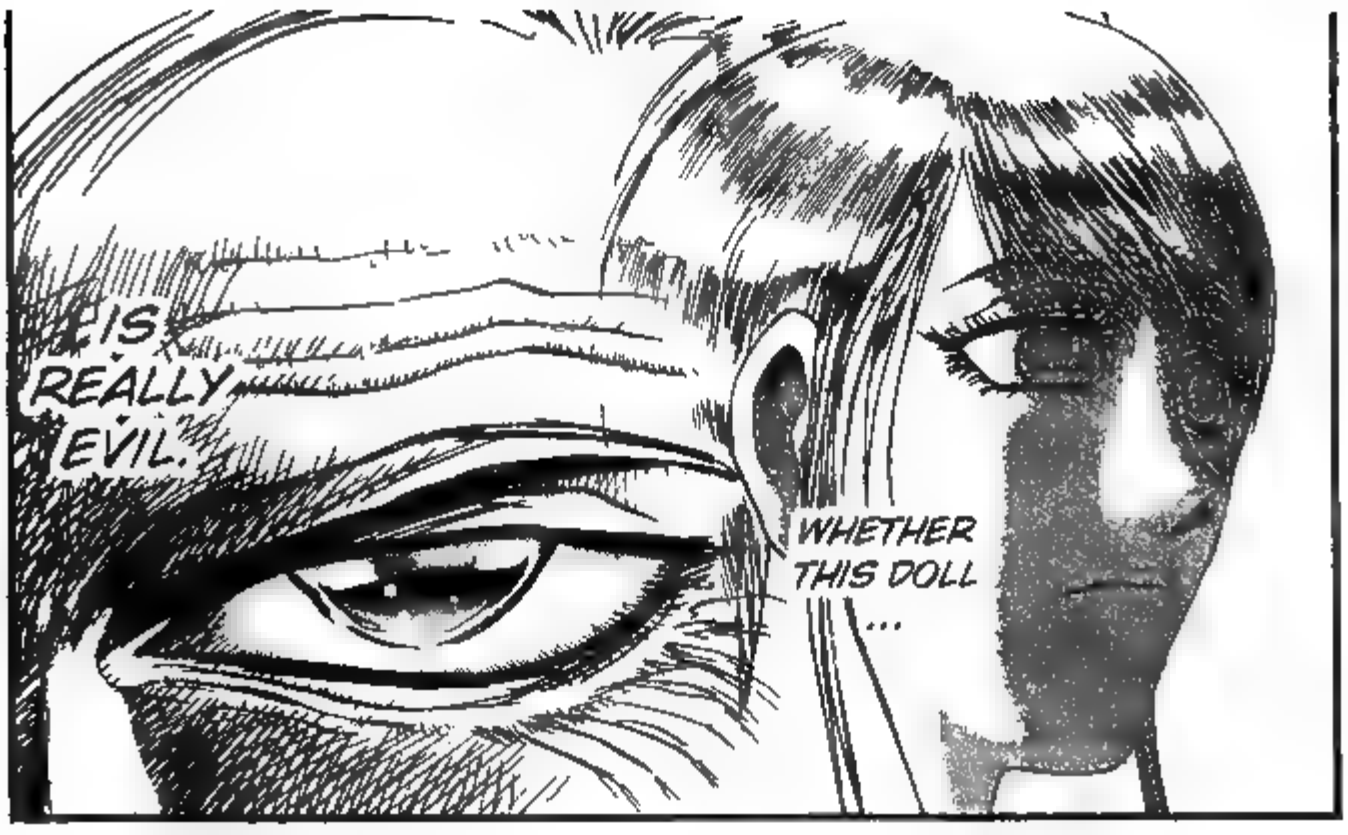

WHAT IS THE REASON YOU WILL NOT DISMANTLE ME HERE?

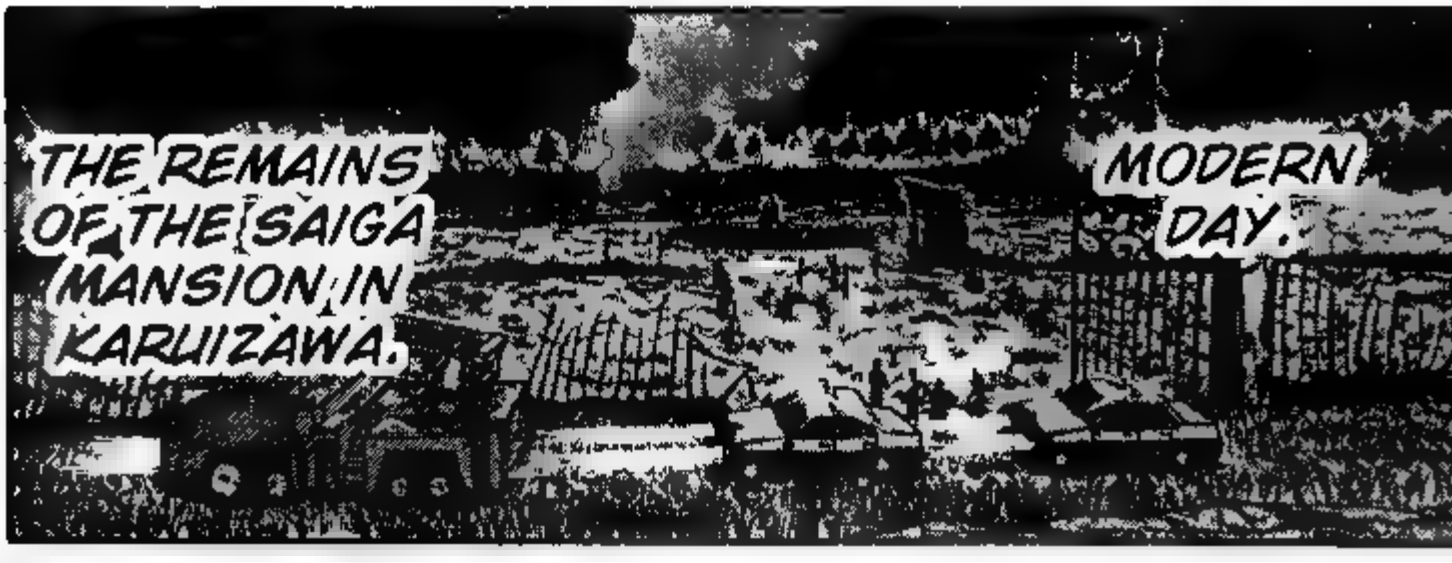



THE ALTERATIONS ARE FINISHED! YOU HAVE NO MORE STRENGTH THAN AN ORDINARY HUMAN NOW!


WHAT IS TO BECOME OF ME, THEN...?
ONLY SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THAT PAIN...
IS FIT TO PASS THE JUDGMENT YOU DESERVE.
I'M GOING TO HAND YOU OVER TO ANGELINA IN KUROGA VILLAGE.

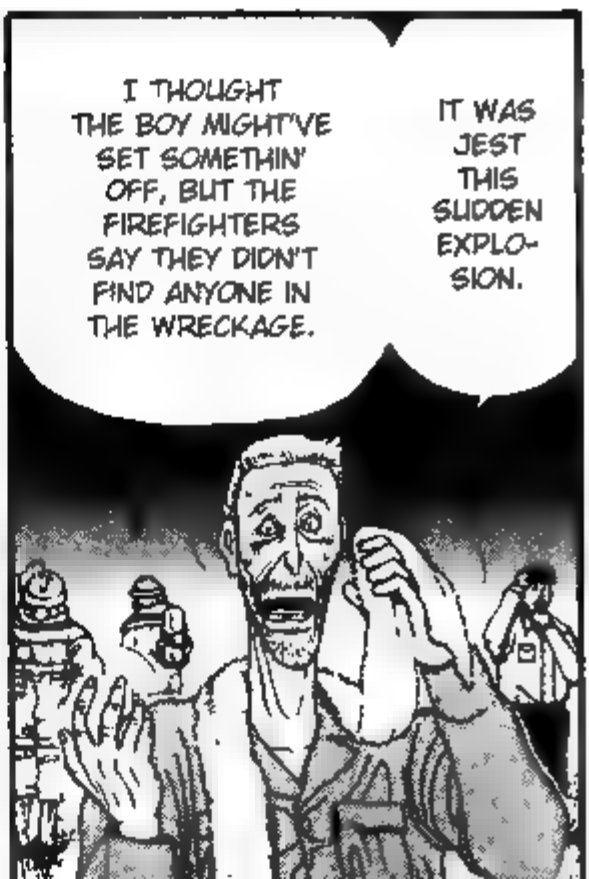

I'M STARTING TO WONDER...
THE HEAD OF THE AUTOMATA JUST DOESN'T MEASURE UP.
TO A HUMAN, SHE OUGHT TO BE A DEVIL IN THE FLESH. BUT NOW THAT I'VE MET HER ...
THAT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO... BUT I'M CONFLICTED ABOUT THIS.


IS REALLY EVIL.
WHETHER THIS DOLL ...

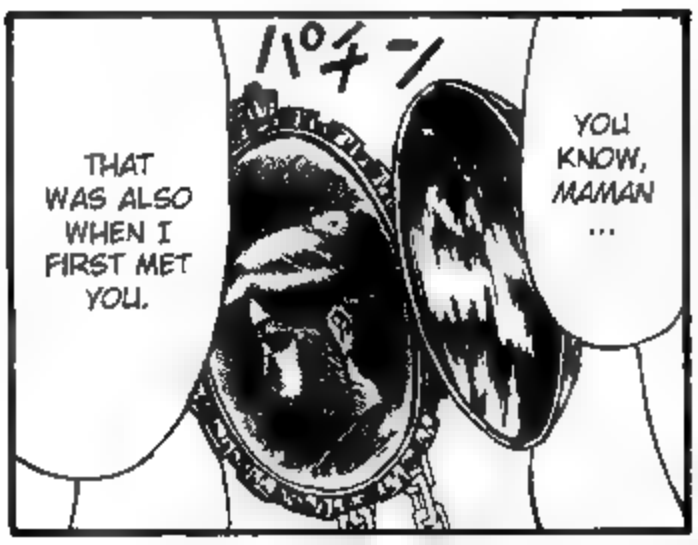

THE REMAINS OF THE SAIGA MANSION IN KARUIZAWA.
MODERN DAY.


I DID MAKE A CALL T'THE HEAD OF KUROGA VILLAGE EARLIER--BUT I CAN'T MAKE HEAD NOR TAIL OF THIS WHOLE AFFAIR.


I SEE. THANK YOU.


I THOUGHT THE BOY MIGHT'VE SET SOMETHIN' OFF, BUT THE FIREFIGHTERS SAY THEY DIDN'T FIND ANYONE IN THE WRECKAGE.
IT WAS JEST THIS SUDDEN EXPLO-SION.


MASARU CAME HERE
AND FOUGHT WITH PUPPETEERS FROM KUROGA VILLAGE
IF THERE WAS NO BODY, THAT COULD MEAN THEY'VE TAKEN HIM
KUROGA VILLAGE
MODERN DAY, A FEW HOURS LATER: KUROGA VILLAGE.


パチン
YOU KNOW, MAMAN ...
THAT WAS ALSO WHEN I FIRST MET YOU.


KUROGA VILLAGE ...
IT MUST BE NINETY YEARS SINCE I LAST CAME CALLING HERE.


I'D COME TO CARRY OUT A MISSION FOR THE SHIROGANE ...
NOT TODAY, THOUGH, MAMAN.


THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO... 1909, ALL THE WAY BACK IN THE MEIJI ERA.

translation by funnuraba tumblr com

NOTES:

pg. 16-18 Guy drove to a place called Kuroga Village, if you didn t catch the name

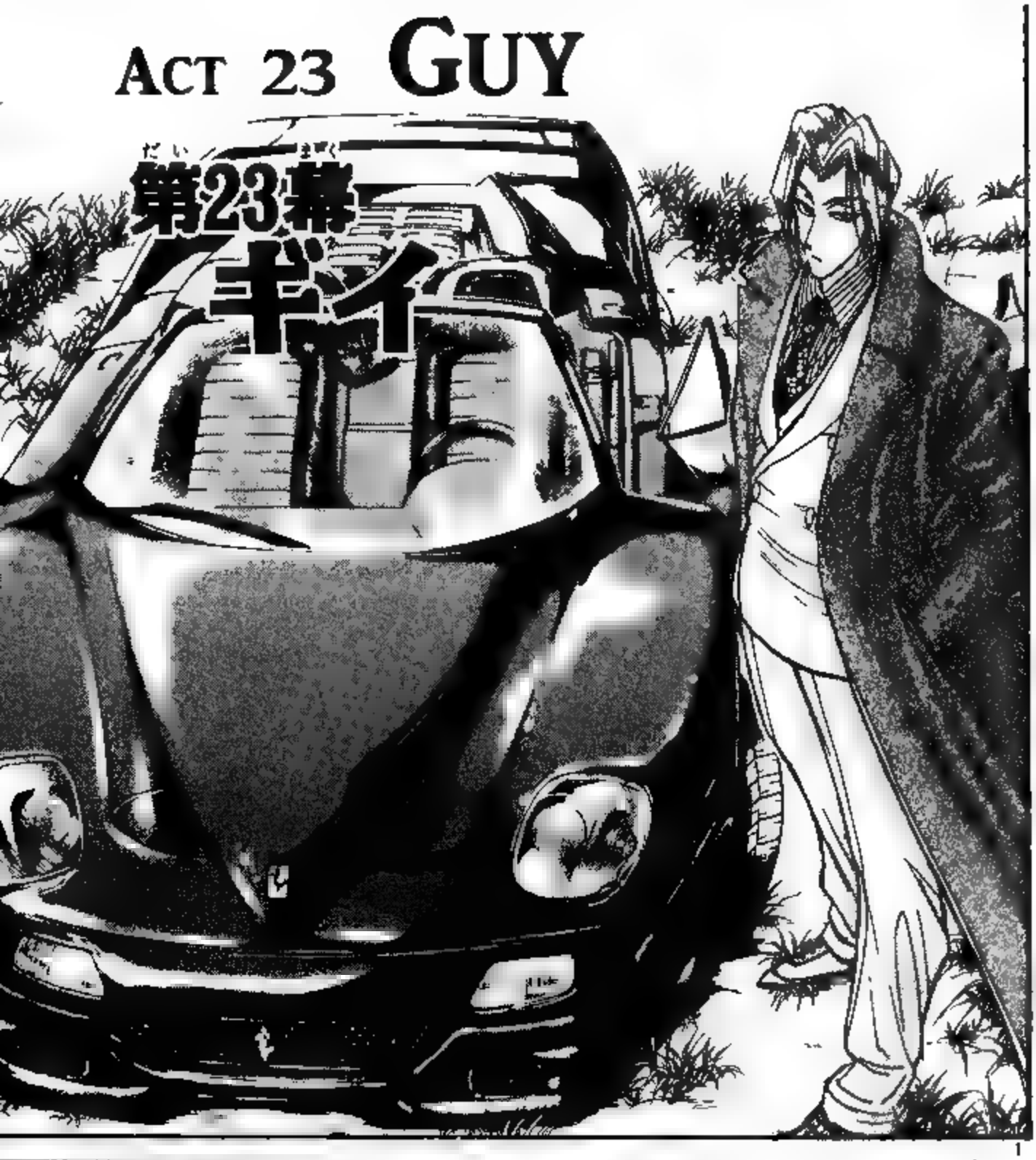
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ACT 23 GUY

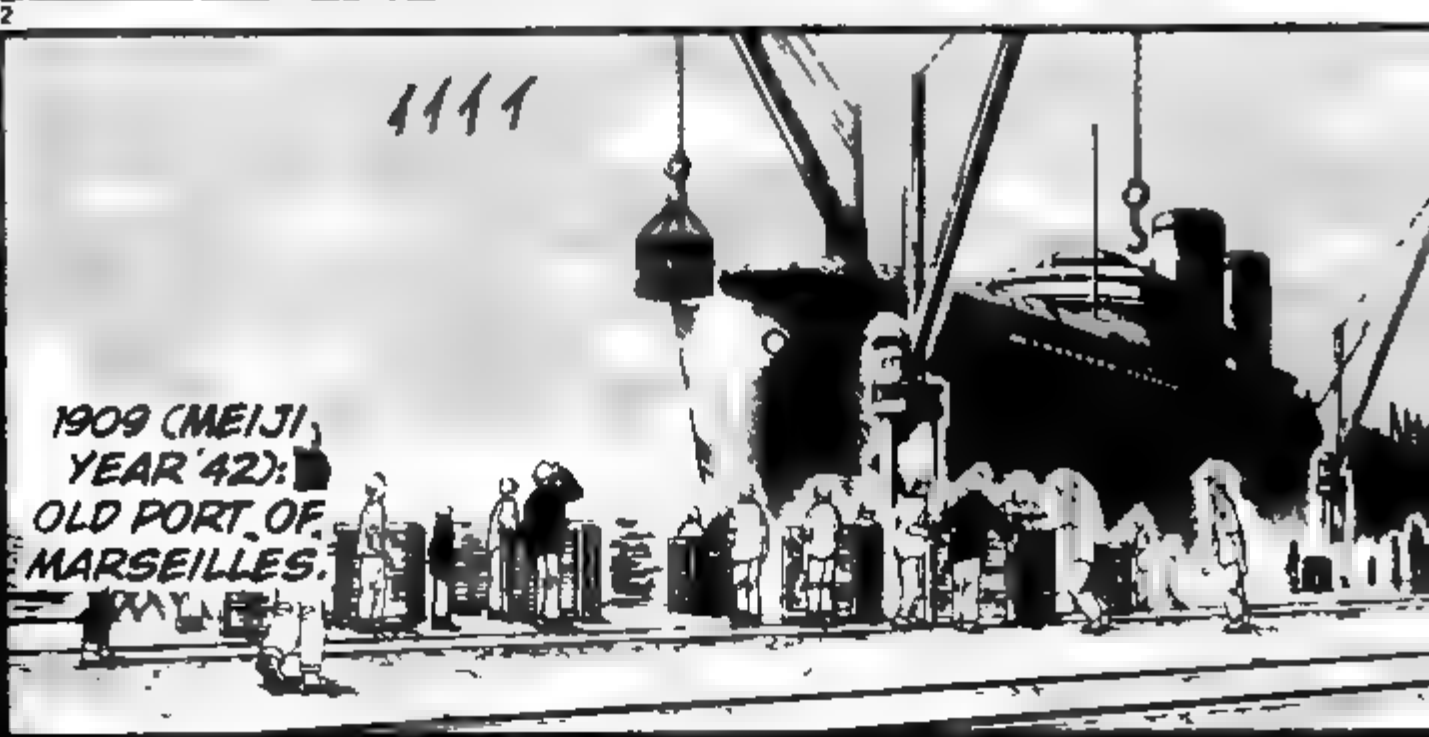
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BACK IN 1909...

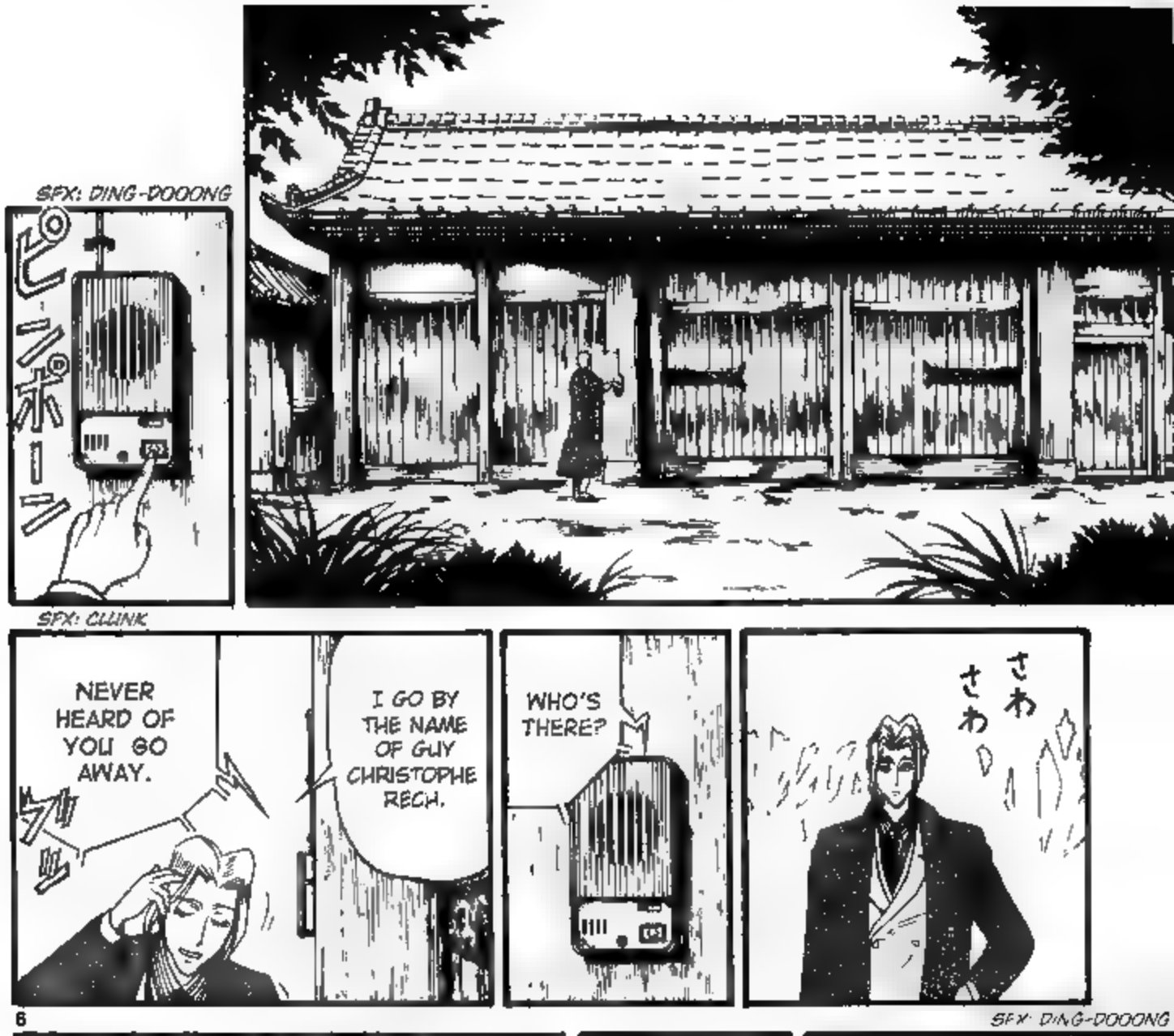

1909 (MEIJI YEAR '42): OLD PORT OF MARSEILLES.


YES, MA'AM!
CHECK THE CONTENTS!
GOOD. LET 'ER DOWN GENTLE.


LET'S LOAD THE CARRIAGE!
MAMBA, AND SLEIPNIR, ALL PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR!
GRIGORI AND SCHWARZES TOR ...
AMAZING... SO THESE ARE OUR NEW MARIONETTES, MADAME MARIE?
YES. THESE WERE SENT FROM OVERSEAS ...
TO SERVE AS WEAPONS FOR THE SHIROGANE.


INDEED. THE PUPPETS THEY BUILD ARE WONDERS. THEIR PERFORMANCE IS FAR BEYOND ANY WE HAVE MANAGED.
THERE MUST BE SOME VERY SKILLED PUPPET-BUILDERS OVERSEAS.
YOUR FIRST MARIONETTE.
HERE WE ARE. THIS IS TO BE...
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO TAKE THIS WITH YOU TO A CERTAIN LOCATION.
.. SHE'S LOVELY.
SO I'M FINALLY GOING TO BEGIN DESTROYING AUTOMATA TOO?!


YOU WILL BE GOING TO THE COUNTRY WHERE THIS MARIO-NETTE WAS BUILT.
YOU ARE TO MEET WITH A CERTAIN PERSON, AND YOU ARE TO RETRIEVE A VERY MPORTANT ITEM.
WHAT?
NO, GUY. YOUR FIRST JOB WILL NOT INVOLVE THE AUTOMATA.
WHERE AM I GOING, EXACTLY?
AND WHO IS THAT CERTAIN PERSON?
THE COUNTRY'S NAME IS JAPAN.
AND HER NAME IS ANGELINA.


SFX: DING-DOOONG
ピンポーン
SFX: CLUNK
NEVER HEARD OF YOU GO AWAY.
I GO BY THE NAME OF GUY CHRISTOPHE RECH.
WHO'S THERE?
さわ
さわ
6
SFX: DING-DOOONG
COMMON SENSE... NOT EXACTLY WORDS THAT SUIT A SHIRO-GANE.
ぴんぽーん
GO AWAY! IT'S TOO EARLY FOR THIS NONSENSE! HAVE A LITTLE COMMON SENSE




DO YOU WORK FOR SADA-YOSHI?! ARE YOU HERE TO SAVE THAT BOY?!
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT'S YOUR GAME SNEAKING IN HERE LIKE THIS?

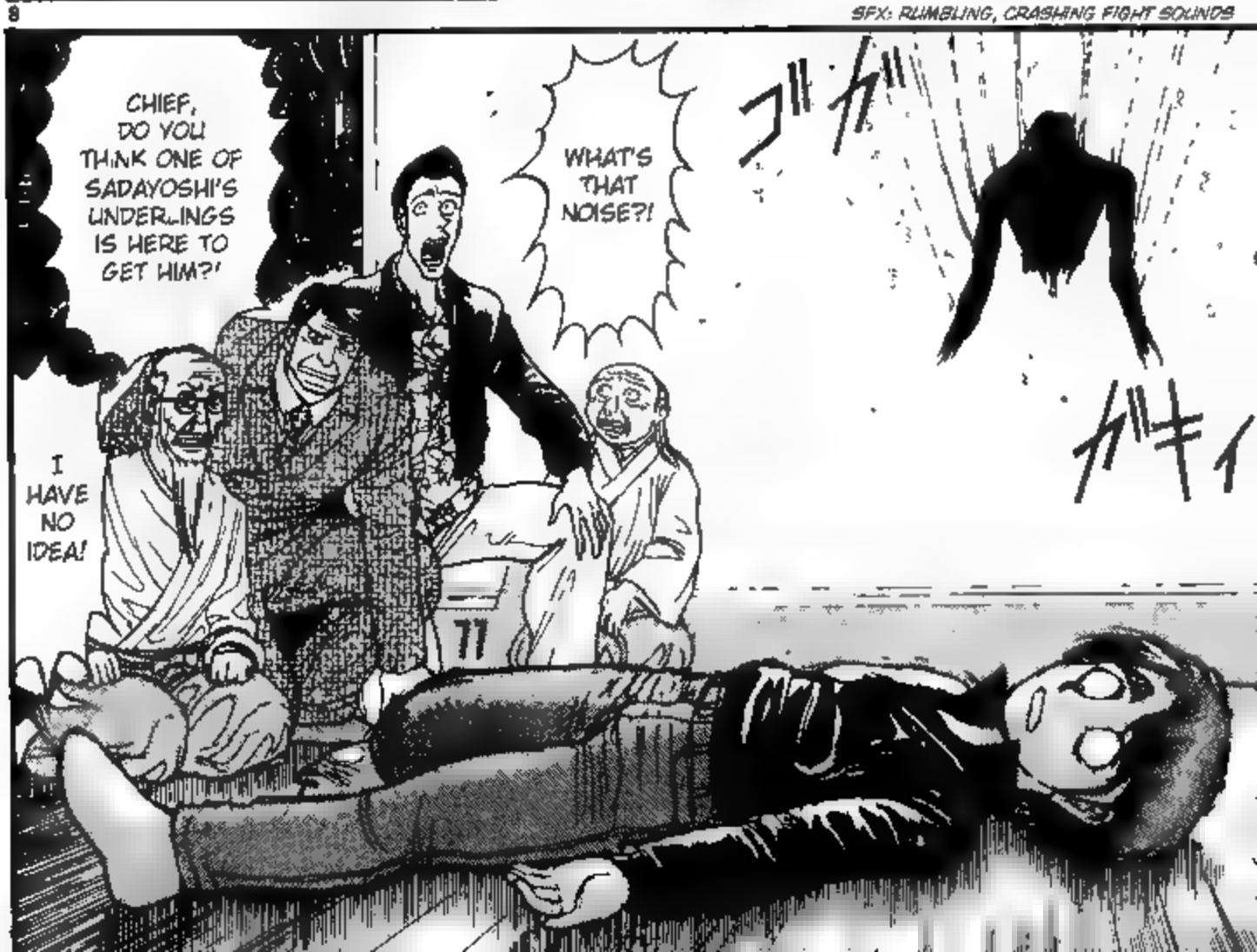



YOU DON'T LOOK BRIGHT ENOUGH TO AB-SORB IT.
EX-PLAINING MYSELF WOULD BE TOO MUCH TROUBLE ...


IF YOU ARE, YOU'RE NOT GETTING OUT ALIVE!


WE'RE PUPPETEERS! AND THESE PUPPETS WE USE ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO KILL YOU INSTANTLY! DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT?!
I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST IF I SPOKE TO THE ONE IN CHARGE HERE.
WHAT WAS THAT?!
OH, LORD! HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO JOIN UP WITH ONE'S FRIENDS!
AS SHAKE-SPEARE SAYS...

SFX: RUMBLING, CRASHING FIGHT SOUNDS




DON'T LET THEM TAKE HIM.
YES, SHOUJI-SAMA. HE MUST HAVE.
IF IT IS, THAT MEANS THE BOY REALLY HAS BECOME SADAYOSHI.
THERE'S A STRANGE FOREIGNER HERE WHO WANTS TO MEET WITH THE PERSON IN CHARGE!
WHAT IS IT?!
MAY-OR!
スラ
I'LL GO AND REPORT BACK!
OKAY!
A FOR-EIGNER? COULD IT BE. ?


WH-WHAT'S -?!
AGILE, QUICK-WITTED, AND A FELLOW PUPPET-EER?
WERE YOU PLAN-NING ON A FIGHT USING MARION-ETTES ALONE?
WHAT IS YOUR PLAN IF YOU HAPPEN ACROSS A FOE LIKE MYSELF ...

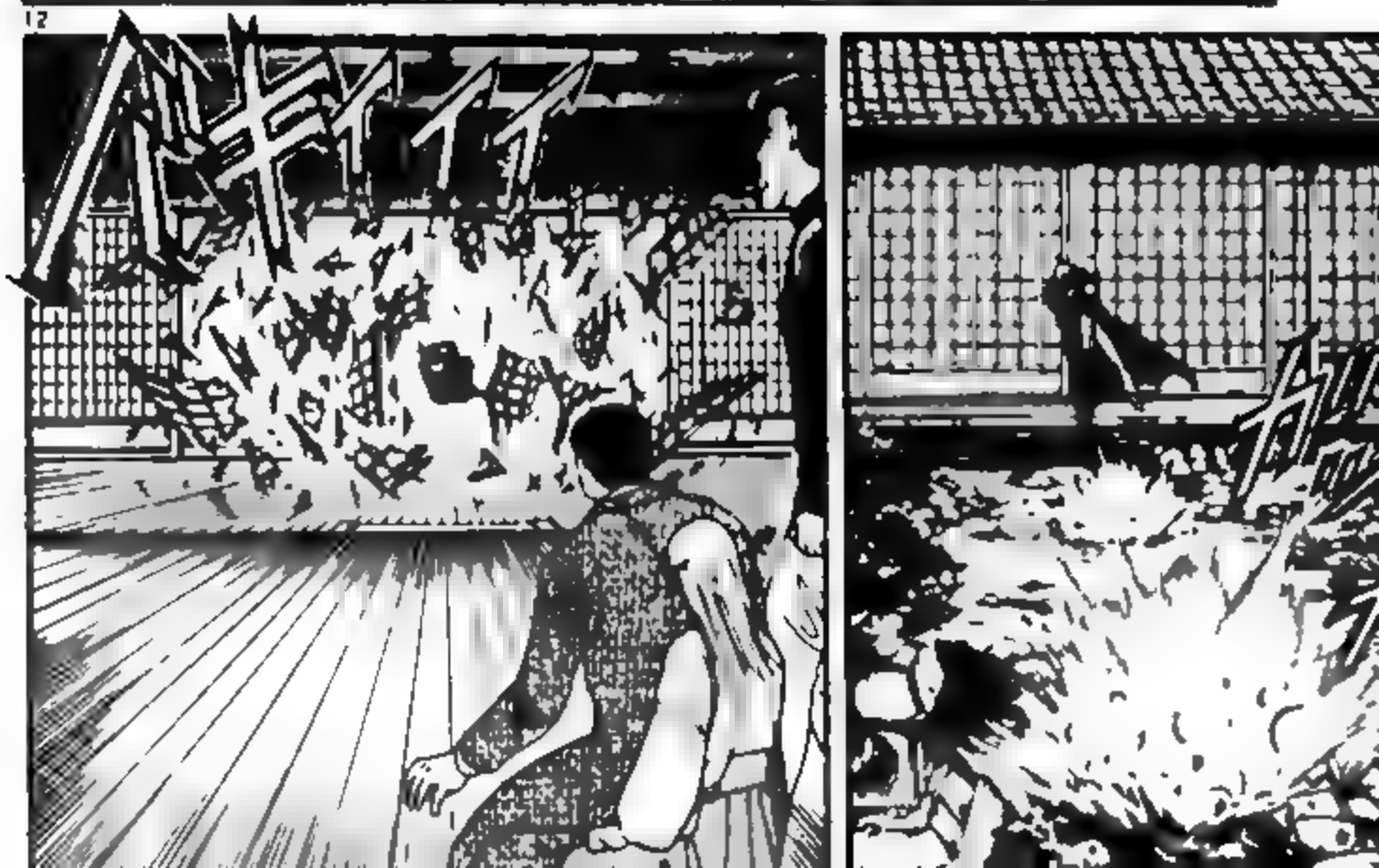



LEARN HOW TO PROPERLY EVALUATE YOUR OPPONENT.
YOU NEED TO STUDY MORE.
DAMN IIIT!
YOU ...!
YOU GOT HIM!


WHAT IS IT ?!
RIGHT! UH... HANG ON.
NOW TAKE HIM OUT!


WHAT ?!
THE STRINGS
ARE ALL CUT.

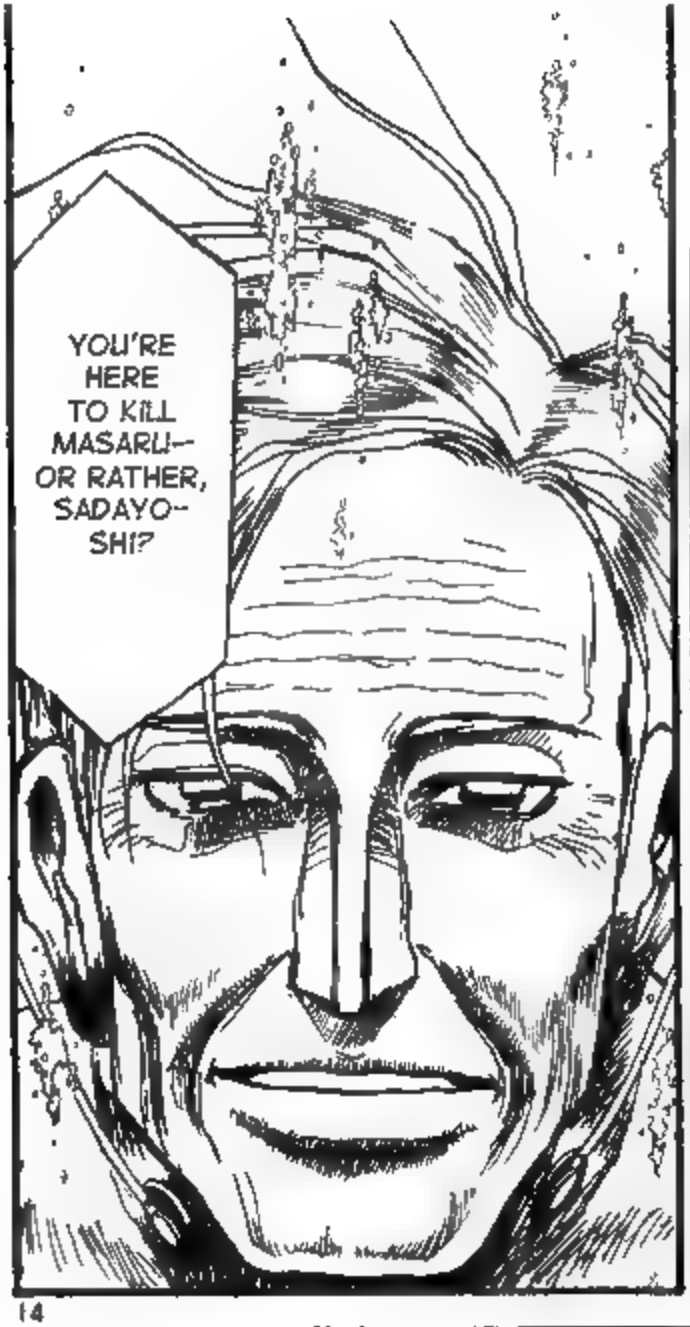



AHH!!


GET IN HERE, MEN!
CRAP!
IS THAT THE INTRUDER ?!




WE'LL TAKE CARE OF SADA-YOSHI AT THE SAME TIME!
GET READY TO DIE!


YOU'RE HERE TO KILL MASARU— OR RATHER, SADAYO-SHI?


...GUY ...?
!


ON THE VERY DAY I MADE UP MY MIND TO FIGHT SADA-YOSHI
THAT'S RIGHT. I ENTRUSTED THAT JOB TO YOU


YES. IF I FIND OUT THAT SADAYOSHI HAS DOWNLOADED HIS OWN PERSONALITY INTO THAT BOY, I WILL KILL HIM...
THAT'S WHAT I PROMISED YOU THREE YEARS AGO.


WHO ON EARTH IS THIS GUY?
SHOUJI-SAMA, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!


ざわ
!
THE SHIRO-GANE.


HE IS ONE OF THOSE WHO WORKED WITH THE KUROGA PUPPETEERS TO BUILD PUPPETS, MANY YEARS AGO .
HE IS NOT AN ENEMY


AND A NATURAL PUPPETEER...
AN IMMORTAL HUMAN...
THAT'S A SHIRO-GANE...?

15

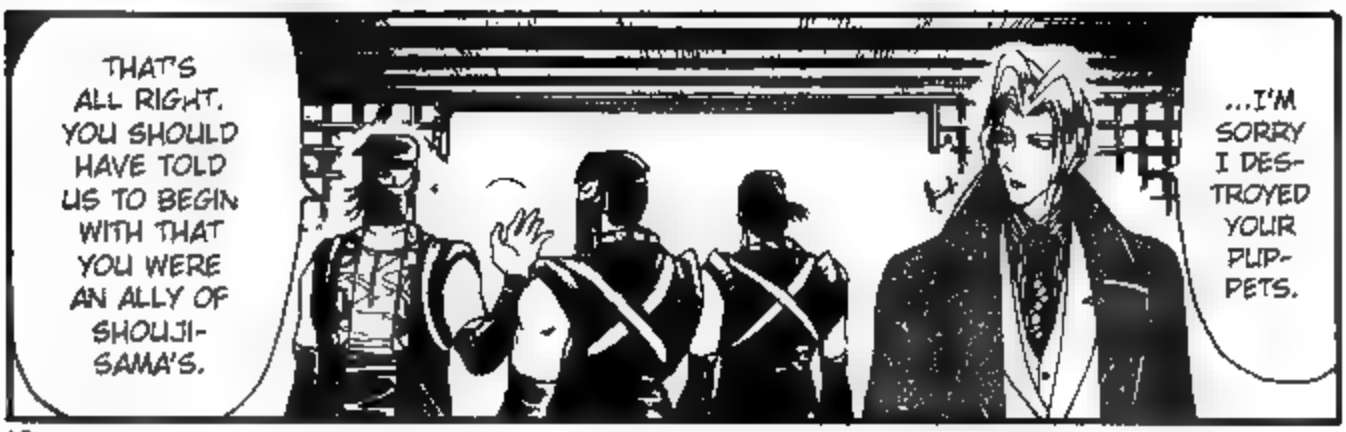

AND SO YOU LET MASARU DO AS HE WISHED.


SO THERE WAS NO WAY OF ASCERTAINING WHETHER OR NOT HE HAD SUCCESSFULLY DOWNLOADED HIMSELF INTO MASARU.
AFTER YOUR FIGHT WITH SADAYOSHI, HIS BODY WAS COMPLETELY GONE.


YES. LATER, I THOUGHT THAT IF I SENT HIM AS FAR AS THE MANSION IN KARUIZAWA ...
THE PEOPLE OF KUROGA WOULD MOBILIZE, AND BRING HIM TO YOU TO MAKE THE DECISION.


SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...


I AM THE WITNESS TO THIS JUDGMENT, AND I WILL BE THE ONE TO KILL SADA-YOSH .
SO PLEASE DO FORGIVE ME IF I WAS TOO PUSHY IN GAINING ENTRANCE.


THAT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD US TO BEGIN WITH THAT YOU WERE AN ALLY OF SHOUJI-SAMA'S.
...I'M SORRY I DES-TROYED YOUR PUP-PETS.

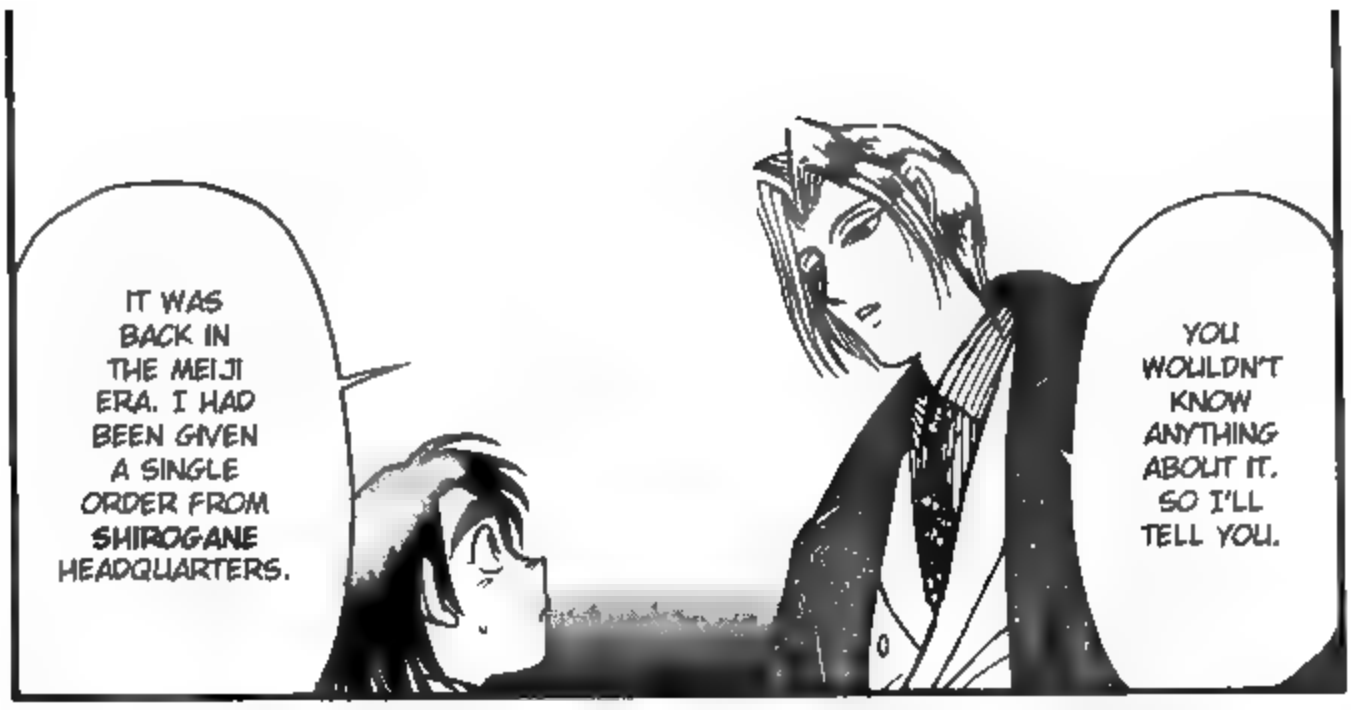

GUY YOU'VE ARRIVED A BIT EARLY.
SO YOU STILL AREN'T SURE?


GUY-SAN!
THEN I AM EARLY...
Huh...
HE'S STILL IN THE MIDDLE OF LIVING THROUGH MY MEM-ORIES

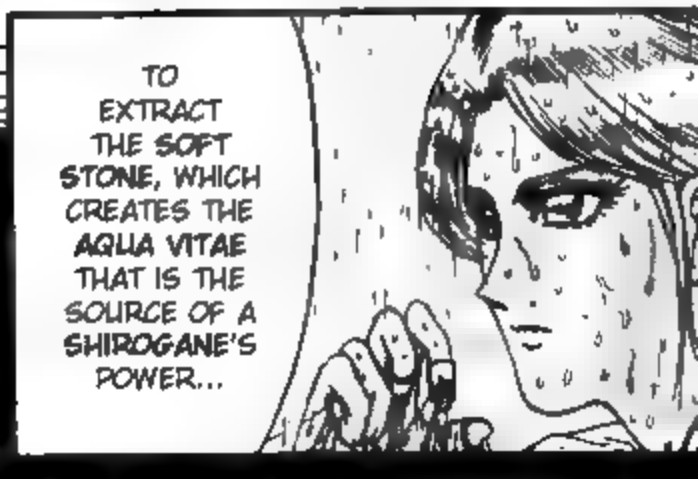

91 YEARS AGO.
I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE.


WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? HOW'D YOU KNOW


MASARU-KUN... YOU NOTICED I WAS HERE?


IT WAS BACK IN THE MEIJI ERA. I HAD BEEN GIVEN A SINGLE ORDER FROM SHIROGANE HEADQUARTERS.
YOU WOULDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT. SO I'LL TELL YOU.


FROM THE BODY OF A WOMAN NAMED ANGELINA.


TO EXTRACT THE SOFT STONE, WHICH CREATES THE AQUA VITAE THAT IS THE SOURCE OF A SHIROGANE'S POWER...


AND TRANSFER IT INTO THE CHILD SHE HAD CONCEIVED.

translation by funnuraba tumblr com

NOTES:

pg. 8: As far as I can tell, Guy's quotes from Shakespeare are intentionally paraphrased. This one was from *As You Like It*, Act 3 scene 2. "O Lord, Lord! it is a hard matter for friends to meet."

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91 YEARS AGO, IN THE PERIOD YOU CALL THE ME JI ERA...
I CAME TO KUROGA VILLAGE.
THE JOB I HAD BEEN GIVEN ...
WAS TO REMOVE THE SOFT STONE FROM ANGELINA'S BODY, AND TRANSFER IT INTO THE CHILD SHE HAD CONCEIVED.

ACT 24 MAMAN


AS YOU MAY IMAGINE...
SHE WAS NOT ABOUT TO LET THAT HAPPEN.


第24幕
ママン

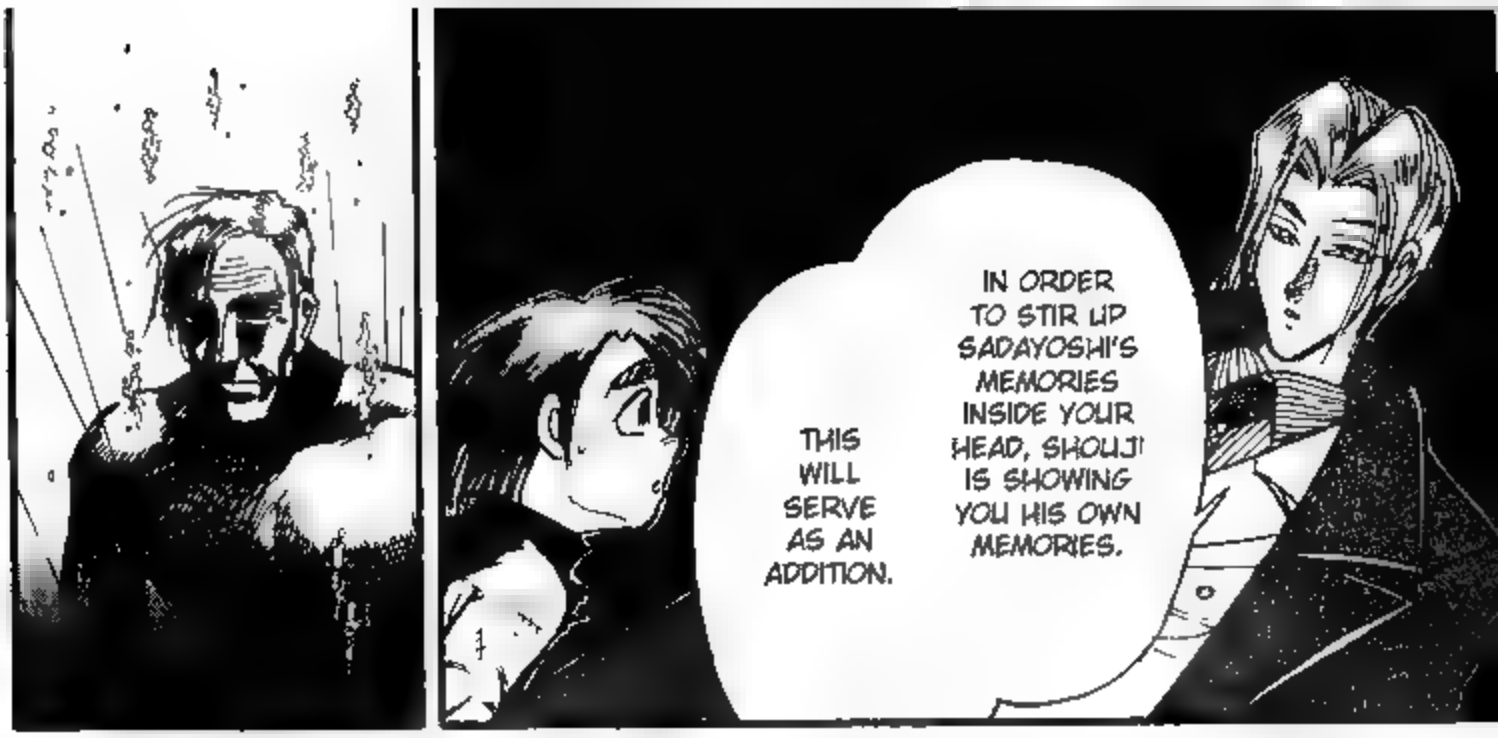


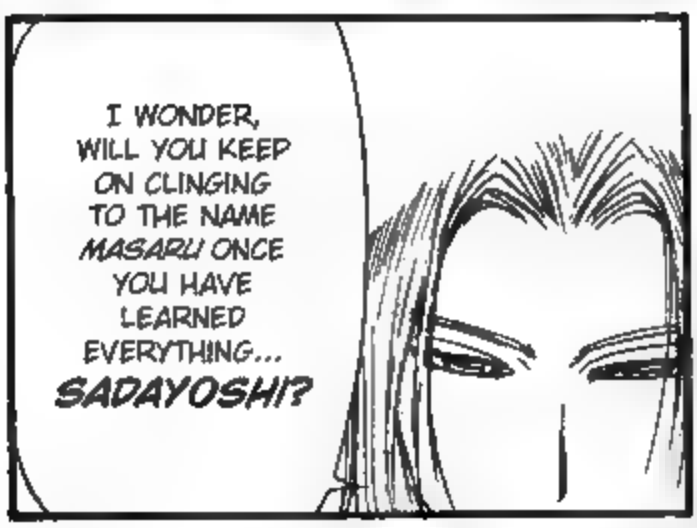


4






IN ORDER TO STIR UP SADAYOSHI'S MEMORIES INSIDE YOUR HEAD, SHOUJI IS SHOWING YOU HIS OWN MEMORIES.
THIS WILL SERVE AS AN ADDITION.


I WONDER, WILL YOU KEEP ON CLINGING TO THE NAME *MASARU* ONCE YOU HAVE LEARNED EVERYTHING... **SADAYOSHI?**


HUH?
AND SOMEONE WHOM YOU KNOW VERY WELL IS CLOSELY INVOLVED WITH THIS MEMORY.


THAT IS WHEN I WILL KILL YOU.
AS YOU SHAKE WITH FRUSTRATED REGRET OVER THE TRUTH YOU NEVER KNEW...

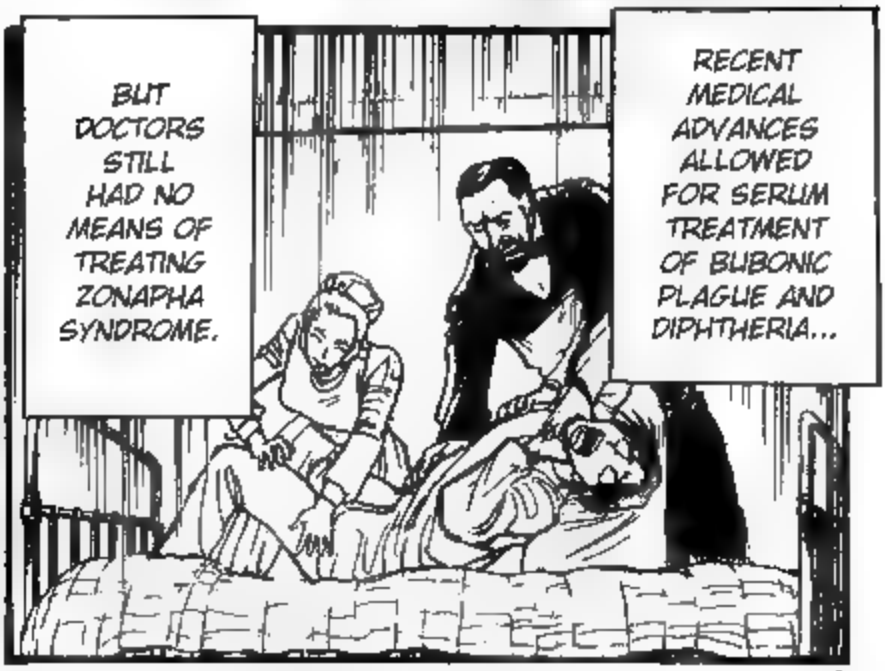
5


SFX: WHEEZING
NOW THEN. LISTEN UP.


SFX: GULP
GUY-SAN...
ゴク


I CAME DOWN WITH ZONAPHA SYNDROME IN 1898, WHEN I WAS 12 YEARS OLD.

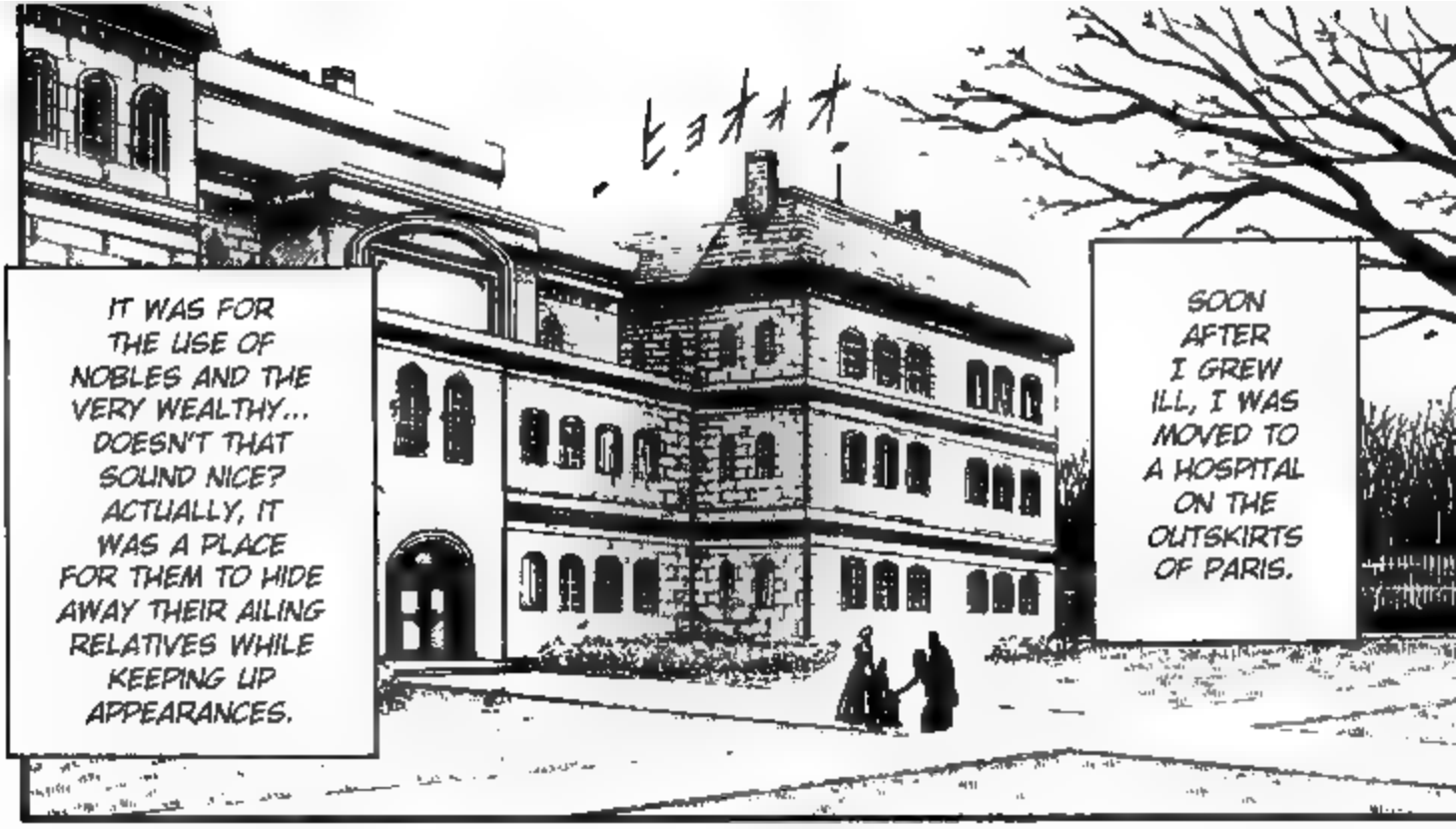

MY PARENTS WERE WEALTHY PARISIANS, PERFECTLY ORDINARY IN EVERY WAY

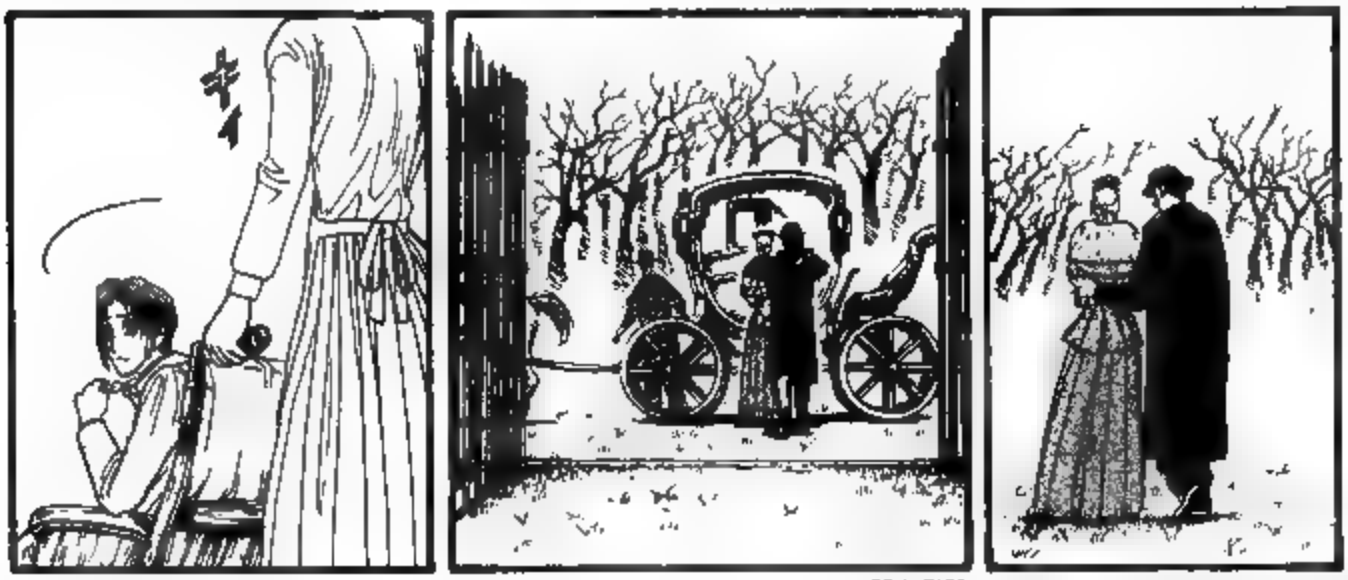

BUT DOCTORS STILL HAD NO MEANS OF TREATING ZONAPHA SYNDROME.
RECENT MEDICAL ADVANCES ALLOWED FOR SERUM TREATMENT OF BUBONIC PLAGUE AND DIPHTHERIA...


YES, MAMAN.

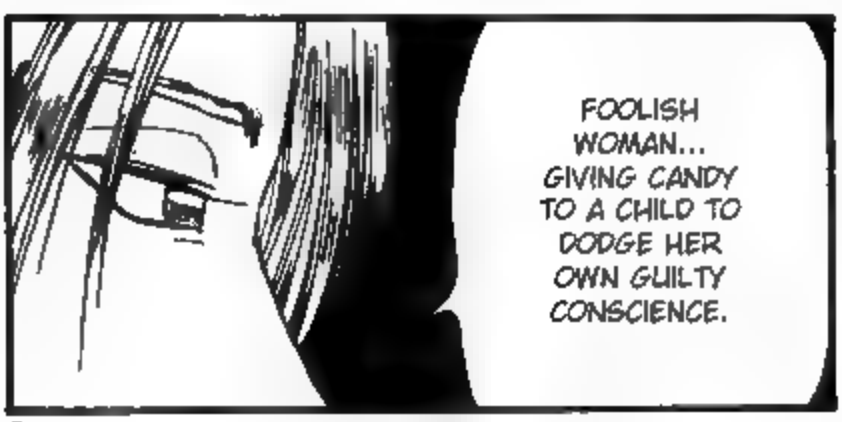

HERE YOU ARE, GUY. EAT THIS CANDY AND BE A GOOD BOY, NOW.


MY MOTHER WAS AN ORDINARY WOMAN. A LIFE OF EASE AND LUXURY WAS THE ONLY ONE SHE KNEW.


ヒョオォオ
IT WAS FOR THE USE OF NOBLES AND THE VERY WEALTHY... DOESN'T THAT SOUND NICE? ACTUALLY, IT WAS A PLACE FOR THEM TO HIDE AWAY THEIR AILING RELATIVES WHILE KEEPING UP APPEARANCES.
SOON AFTER I GREW ILL, I WAS MOVED TO A HOSPITAL ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF PARIS.



SFX: BITE


FOOLISH WOMAN... GIVING CANDY TO A CHILD TO DODGE HER OWN GUILTY CONSCIENCE.




WHAT... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
BUT OF COURSE, I WAS A FOOL TOO. I BELIEVED WHAT SHE TOLD ME.


I KNOW! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?! I WAS JUST AS LOVABLE BACK THEN AS I AM NOW!
NO WAY...
AFTER THAT, THEY ABANDONED ME.
WHEN I HAD MY SEIZURES IN THAT COLD, CRAMPED HOSPITAL ROOM...
THERE WAS NOTHING THE DOCTORS COULD DO.
MY PARENTS SENT MONEY, BUT THAT WAS ALL. THEY LEFT ME THERE IN THE HOSPITAL
YOU JUST THOUGHT, "I'M CUTER," DIDN'T YOU?!
...SO THEN WHAT?
VISITORS SOON STOPPED COMING.
I did not!
I UNDERSTOOD THE TRUTH.
AND IN THAT STATE, FOOL THOUGH I WAS...


I HAD BEEN ALONE...
SINCE THE DAY I WAS BORN.


10 YEARS LATER, I FINISHED MY SHIROGANE TRAINING. AND MY FIRST JOB WAS WAITING FOR ME.
WHEN I WAS 14, A SHIROGANE BY THE NAME OF MARIE SHOWED ME HOW TO BECOME A DESTROYER OF DOLLS LIKE HER.


KUROGA VILLAGE.
OCTOBER 6, 1909 (MEIJI YEAR 42).
さくさくさく


チャプ
OH, GOOD HEAVENS, MA'AM! WHAT D'YOU THINK YOU'RE DOIN', AS FAR ALONG AS YOU ARE?
GOOD MORNING, TOMI-SAN.
I JUST THOUGHT I'D WASH THESE OFF.

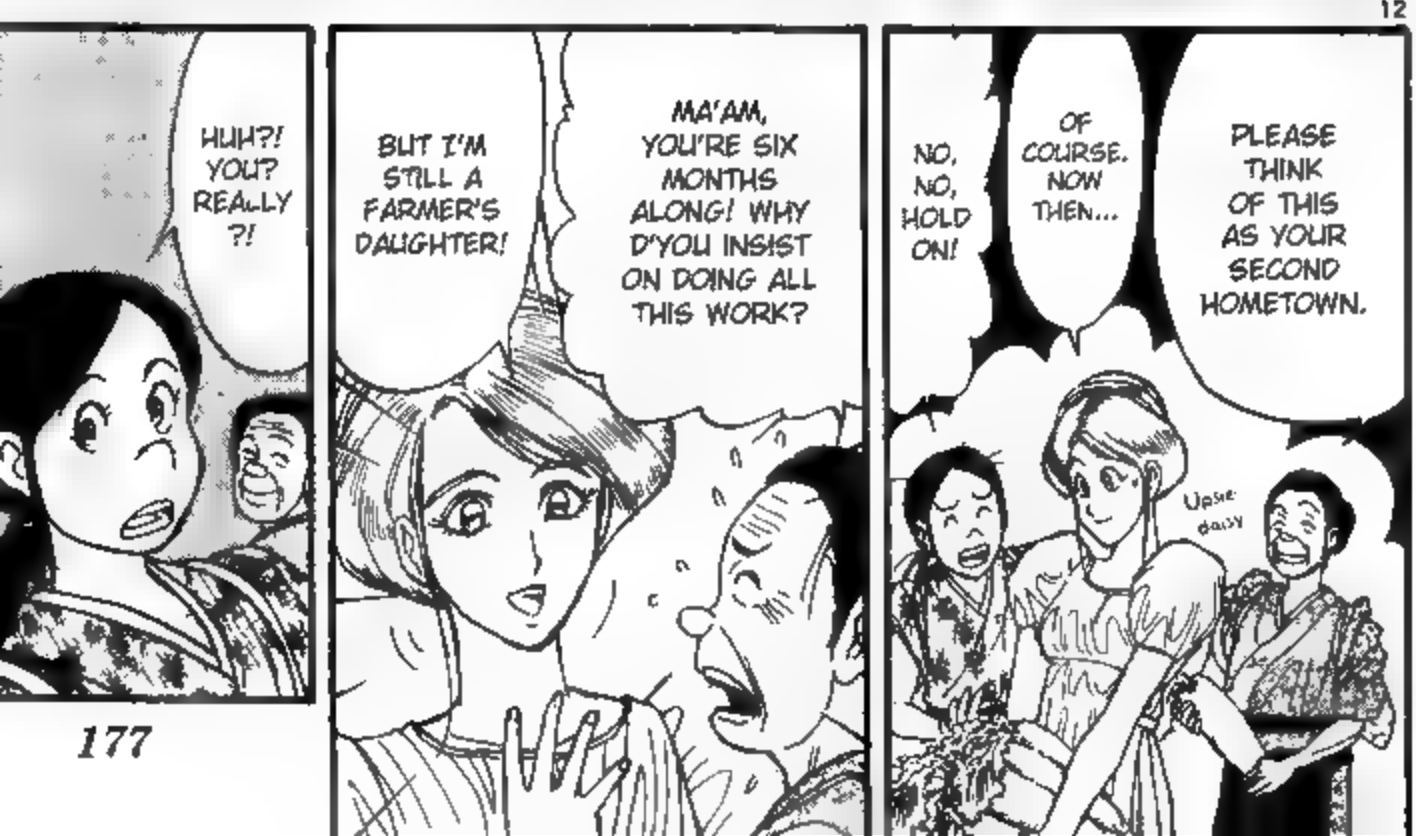

NO MATTER HOW YOU'RE FEELIN', YOU'RE STILL THE WIFE OF THE MAN WHO SAVED OUR VILLAGE!
OUR VILLAGE'D BE THE LAUGHINGSTOCK OF ALL JAPAN IF IT EVER GOT OUT WE MADE SOMEONE LIKE YOU WASH OUR VEGETABLES!
D-DON'T LOWER YOURSELF TO THAT! LEAVE THAT KINDA WORK TO US.
C'MON NOW, STAND UP!
BUT I FEEL JUST FINE TODAY.

ESTATE OF THE VILLAGE HEAD.
THE ONLY THING THIS TINY VILLAGE HAS EVER HAD TO BE PROUD OF WAS OUR PUPPET DANCES THAT STARTED BACK IN THE HEIAN ERA.
BUT SOME TIME AGO, WHEN WE WERE ABOUT TO STARVE TO DEATH IN A DROUGHT ...


BUT THE PUPPETS THAT KUROGA VILLAGE USES FOR ITS PUPPET DANCES ARE MADE BY MY HUSBAND'S COMPANY. IT WAS ONLY NATURAL THAT HE SHOULD HELP.
PA'S ALWAYS BRAGGIN' ABOUT THAT.
HE GOT TOGETHER A LOT OF MONEY AND ASSISTANCE, AND SAVED OUR HIDES!
SHOUJI-SAMA TOLD US HE COULDN'T LOOK THE OTHER WAY WHEN ONE OF HIS OLDEST CUSTOMERS WAS IN TROUBLE.
AHAHA!

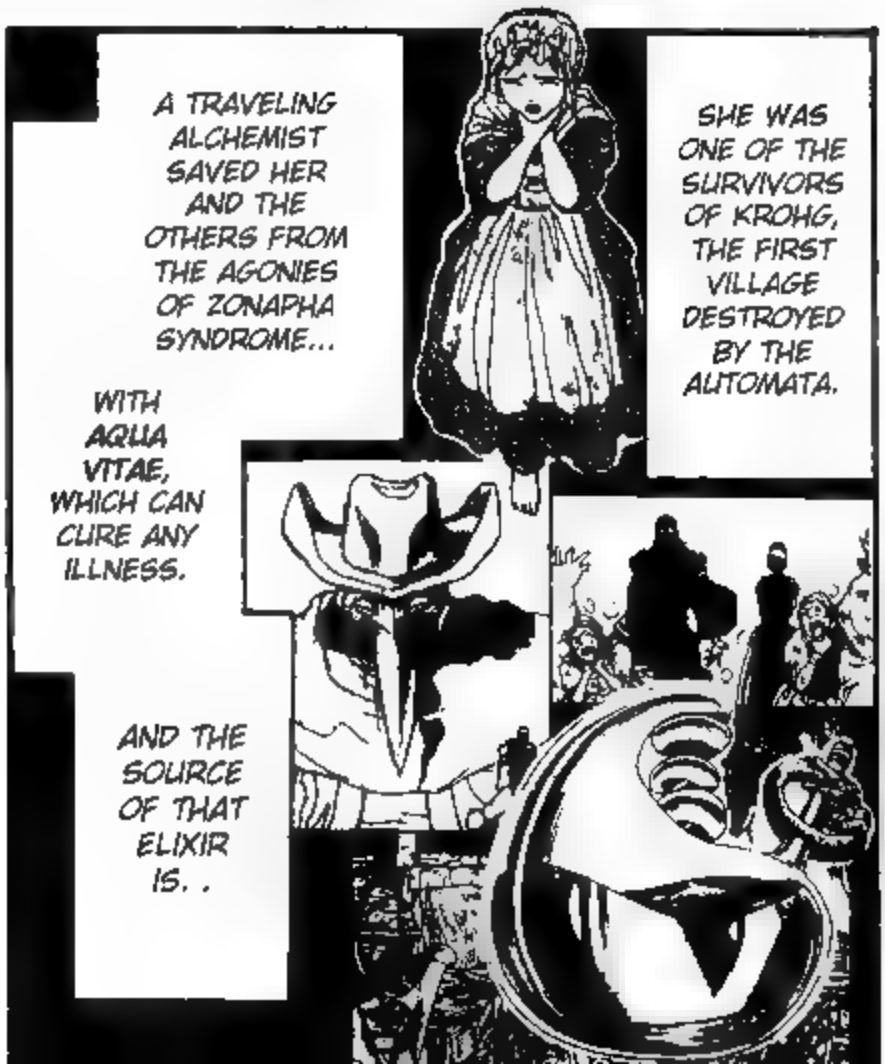

THAT'S ALL I COULD HAVE WANTED.
IT'S VERY RELAXING HERE.
THE MOST YOU OR SHOUJI-SAMA COULD HAVE HOPED TO GAIN WAS A PLACE TO VISIT AND TAKE IT EASY.
NO, NO, IT WASN'T AT ALL! THERE'S NOTHIN' TO BE GAINED BY HELPIN' OUT A TINY VILLAGE LIKE THIS.
BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY. FOLKS ROUND HERE DON'T EVEN NOTICE ANYMORE.
MUST BE REAL HARD BEIN' A RICH MAN'S WIFE AS A FOR-EIGNER.
I CAN EVEN LET MY HAIR AND EYES SHOW.

12


HUH?! YOU? REALLY ?!
BUT I'M STILL A FARMER'S DAUGHTER!
MA'AM, YOU'RE SIX MONTHS ALONG! WHY D'YOU INSIST ON DOING ALL THIS WORK?
NO, NO, HOLD ON!
OF COURSE. NOW THEN...
PLEASE THINK OF THIS AS YOUR SECOND HOMETOWN.


IT'S A VERY LONG TIME AGO
DO YOU WANT TO SEE GRANDMA? SO DO I



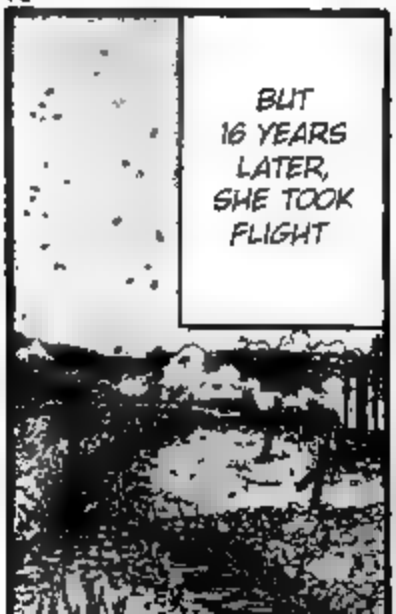

A TRAVELING ALCHEMIST SAVED HER AND THE OTHERS FROM THE AGONIES OF ZONAPHA SYNDROME...
WITH AQUA VITAE, WHICH CAN CURE ANY ILLNESS.
AND THE SOURCE OF THAT ELIXIR IS. .
SHE WAS ONE OF THE SURVIVORS OF KROHG, THE FIRST VILLAGE DESTROYED BY THE ALITOMATA.


KUROGA VILLAGE ...
THE LEGENDARY FEMALE SHIRO-GANE, ANGELINA, IS HERE.


THE GOAL OF ALL ALCHEMISTS; THE HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT IN THE STUDY OF ALCHEMY: THE SOFT STONE.


ANGELINA BECAME THE SOFT STONE'S CONTAINER.
AS THE ONLY CHILD TO SURVIVE.

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BUT 16 YEARS LATER, SHE TOOK FLIGHT


IT MUST BE EMBEDDED IN A HUMAN BODY! AND A CHILD'S IS THE ONLY KIND THAT WILL NOT REJECT IT.


IT'S A DIFFICULT THING TO HOLD ONTO. IT EVAPORATES WHEN EXPOSED TO THE AIR FOR TOO LONG. THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO STORE THIS STONE.


SHE RAN AWAY.
HMPH!
AND FINALLY, 28 YEARS AFTER THAT, SHE MADE CONTACT FROM JAPAN.
SFX: BITE
SFX: THUNDER ROLLING RAINDROPS FALLING
OH, ANGELINA-SAMA! WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH YOU?!
I WILL! AS SOON AS I'M DONE HERE.
MA'AM, PLEASE! LOOK, IT'S RAINING NOW! GET YOURSELF INSIDE!


ヒロイン

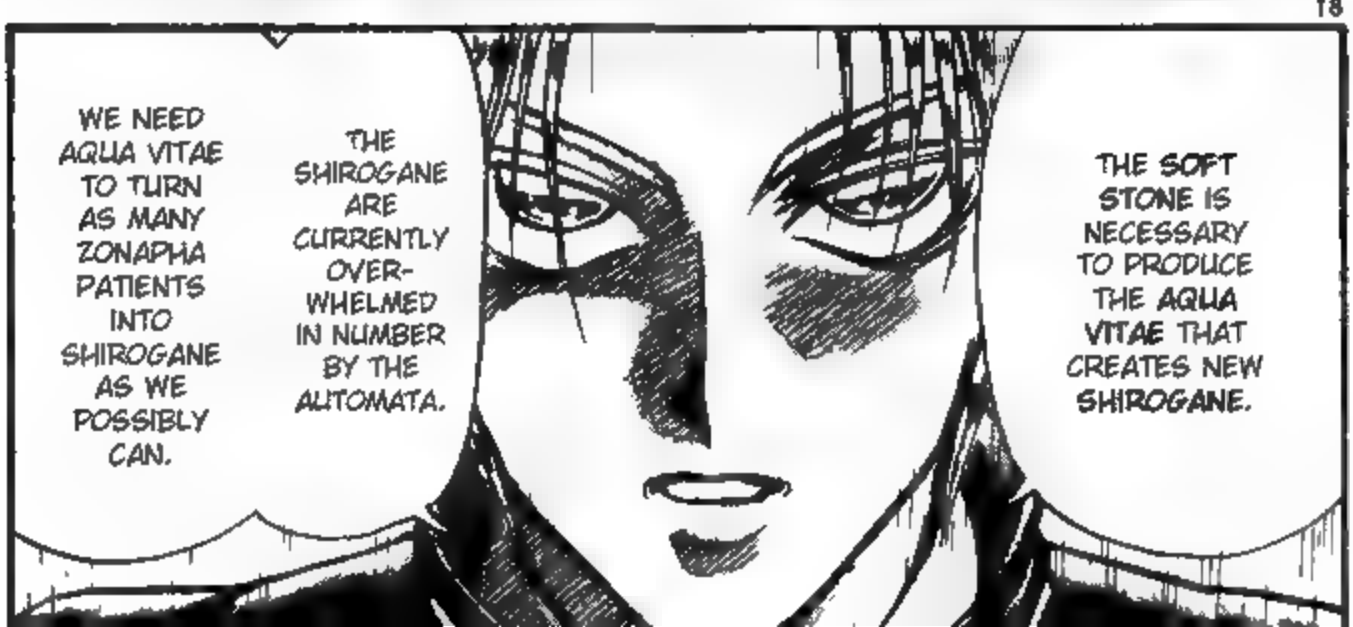
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SFX: FLASH

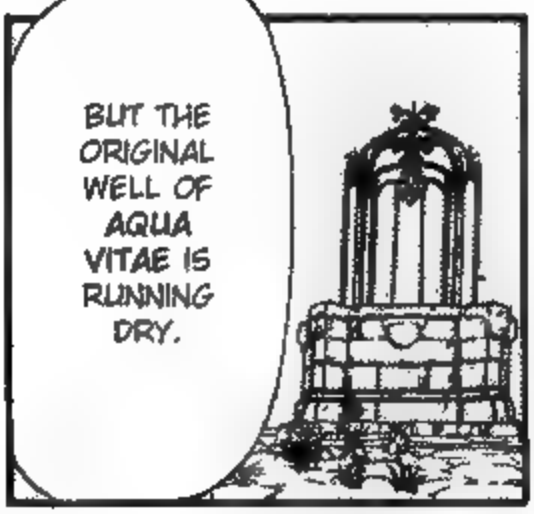

AND YOU'RE FRENCH, AREN'T YOU?!
YOU MUST BE A SHIRO-GANE!
ガラ
ゴロ


OH ...!
ゴロゴロゴロ
SFX: THUN-DER


OH, MY... EXCUSE MY RUDE-NESS.
ER...
IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I MET A FELLOW COUNTRY-MAN HERE.
FANCY THAT! OH, I'M SO HAPPY!
OH! THEN ARE YOU HERE WITH SOME KIND OF MESSAGE FROM MY MOTHER?
MY NAME IS GUY. I WAS SENT FROM QUIBE-RON.
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE AN ADULT... YOU ACT MORE LIKE A CHILD.
AND... WHAT KIND OF JOB MIGHT THAT BE?
.....
I AM HERE TO CARRY OUT A JOB.
THERE IS NO MESSAGE.


WE NEED AQUA VITAE TO TURN AS MANY ZONAPHA PATIENTS INTO SHIROGANE AS WE POSSIBLY CAN.
THE SHIROGANE ARE CURRENTLY OVER-WHELMED IN NUMBER BY THE AUTOMATA.
THE SOFT STONE IS NECESSARY TO PRODUCE THE AQUA VITAE THAT CREATES NEW SHIROGANE.


TRANSFER IT INTO YOUR CHILD, AND TRANSPORT IT BACK TO QUIBERON.

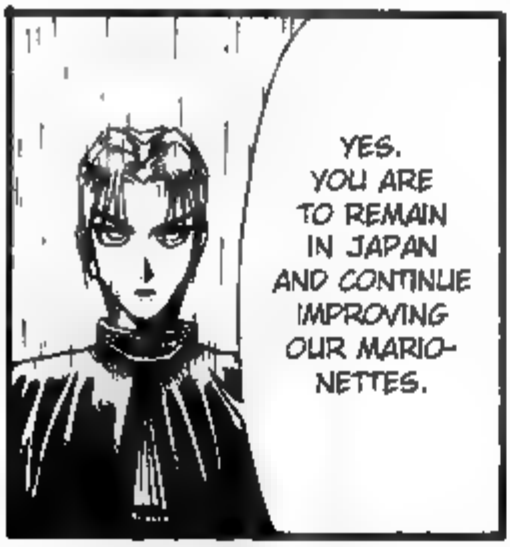

BUT THE ORIGINAL WELL OF AQUA VITAE IS RUNNING DRY.

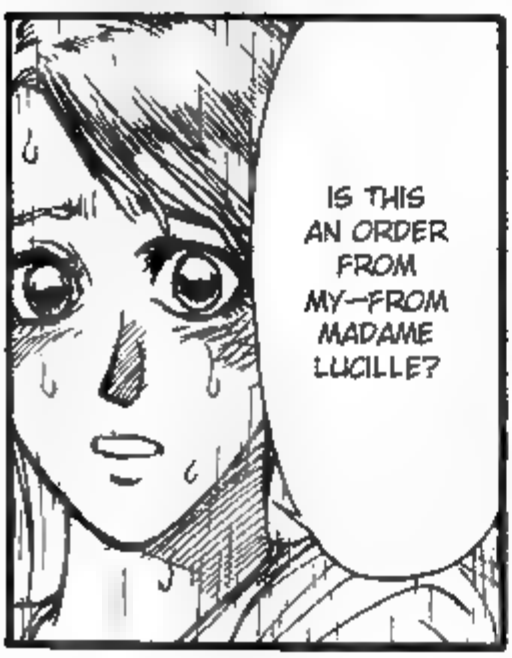

THEREFORE, I AM TO REMOVE THE SOFT STONE FROM YOUR BODY...

SFX: WOBBLE


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AFTERWARDS, HEADQUARTERS WILL KEEP YOUR CHILD IN FRANCE AS ONE OF THE SHIROGANE...
SO THAT THEY CAN REMOVE THE STONE WHENEVER IT IS NEEDED.


YES. YOU ARE TO REMAIN IN JAPAN AND CONTINUE IMPROVING OUR MARIONETTES.

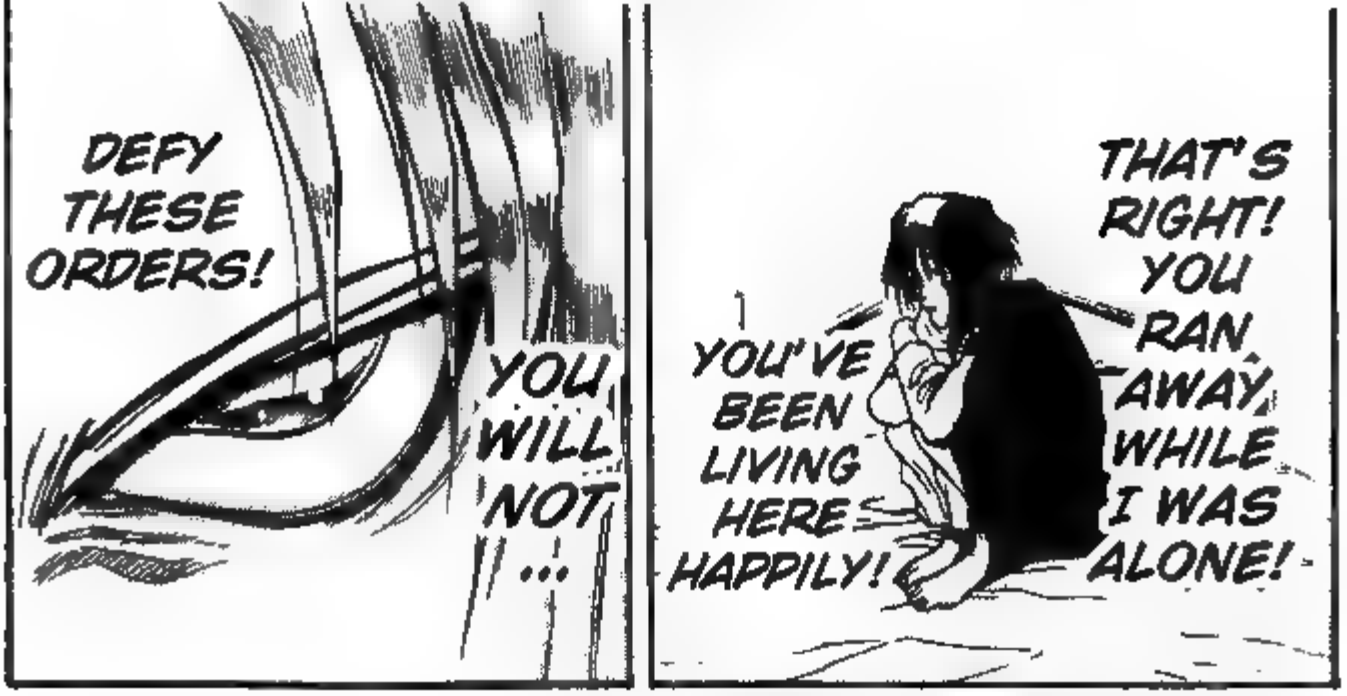

IS THIS AN ORDER FROM MY—FROM MADAME LUCILLE?


YOU'RE TELLING ME...
THAT YOU WANT TO MAKE MY BABY INTO... INTO A MERE CONTAINER FOR THE SOFT STONE?


YOU HAVE A DEBT TO PAY!
AND YOU'VE SPENT ALL THIS TIME IN PEACE AND TRANQUILITY, HAVEN'T YOU?!
YOU ABANDONED YOUR DUTY AS A SHIROGANE AND FLED HERE TO JAPAN.

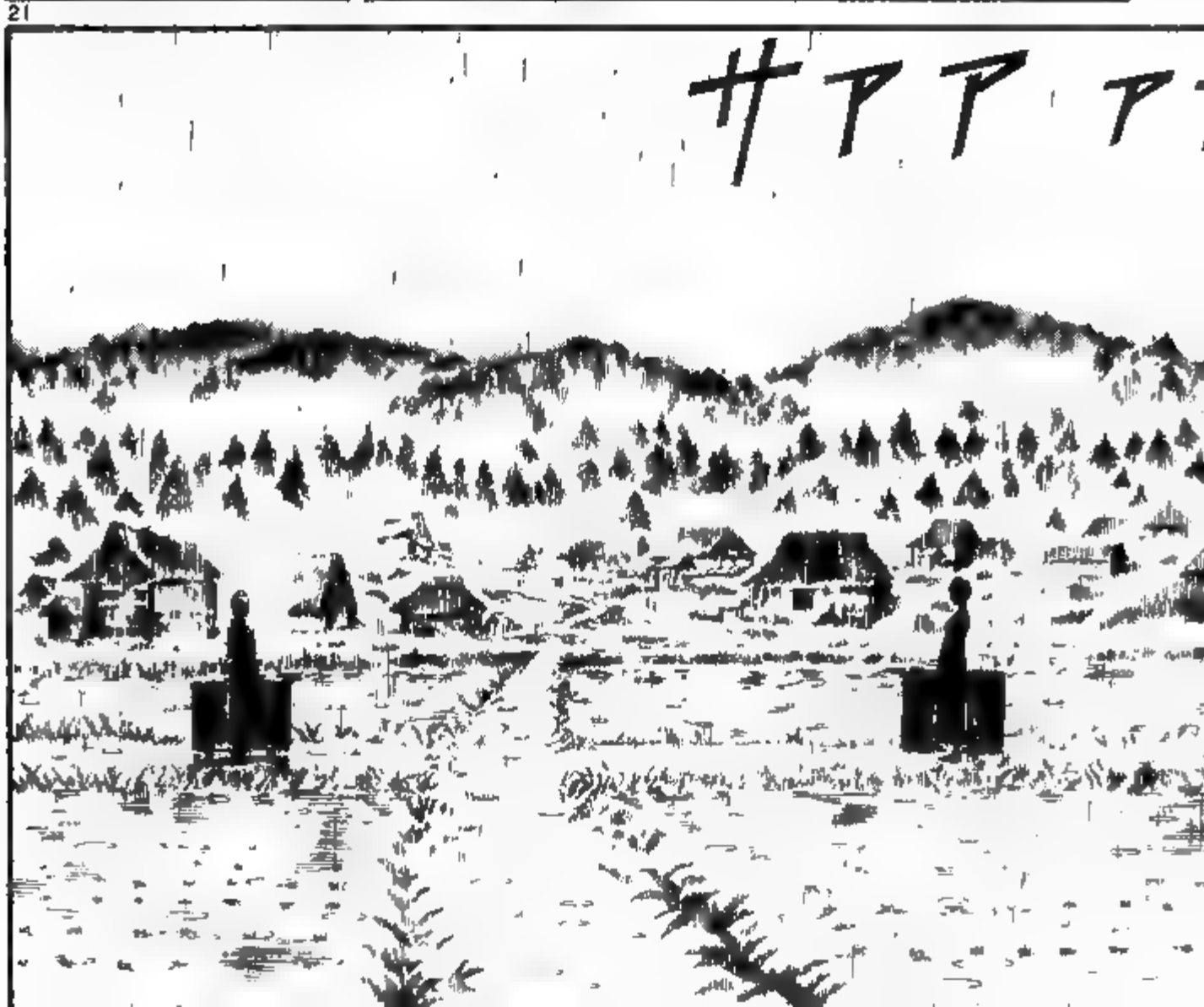

WHAT WAS THAT?
NO...!

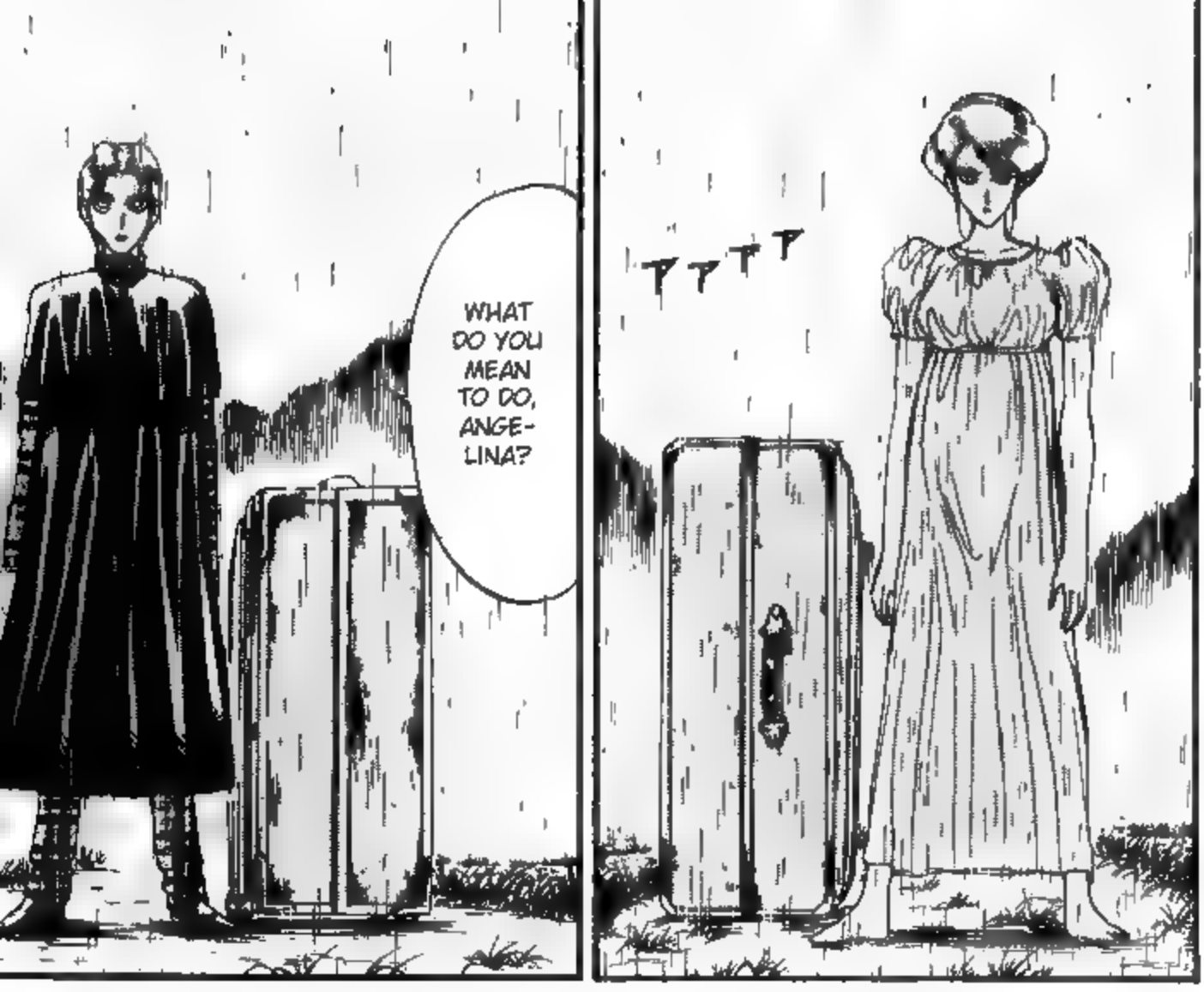

DON'T WORRY. I'VE STUDIED ENOUGH MEDICINE TO CARRY OUT THE OPERATION.
THIS WAS DECIDED BY HEADQUARTERS.

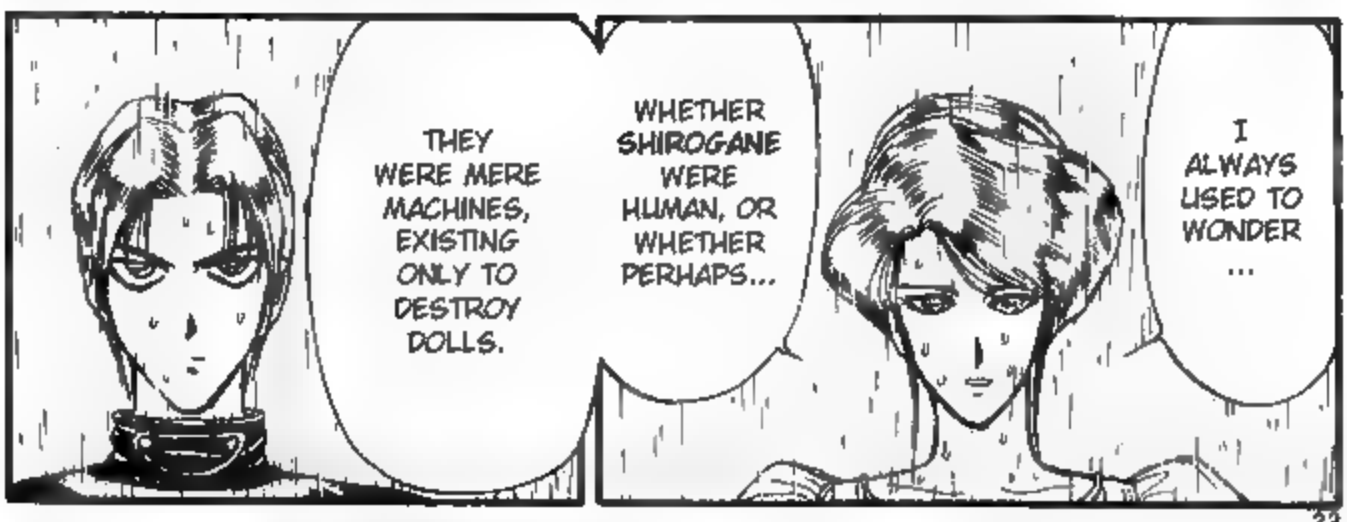

DEFY THESE ORDERS!
YOU WILL NOT ...!
YOU'VE BEEN LIVING HERE HAPPILY!
THAT'S RIGHT! YOU RAN AWAY, WHILE I WAS ALONE!


I'LL BE THERE SOON.
WAIT IN THE FIELDS BEHIND THE VILLAGE.
VERY WELL.

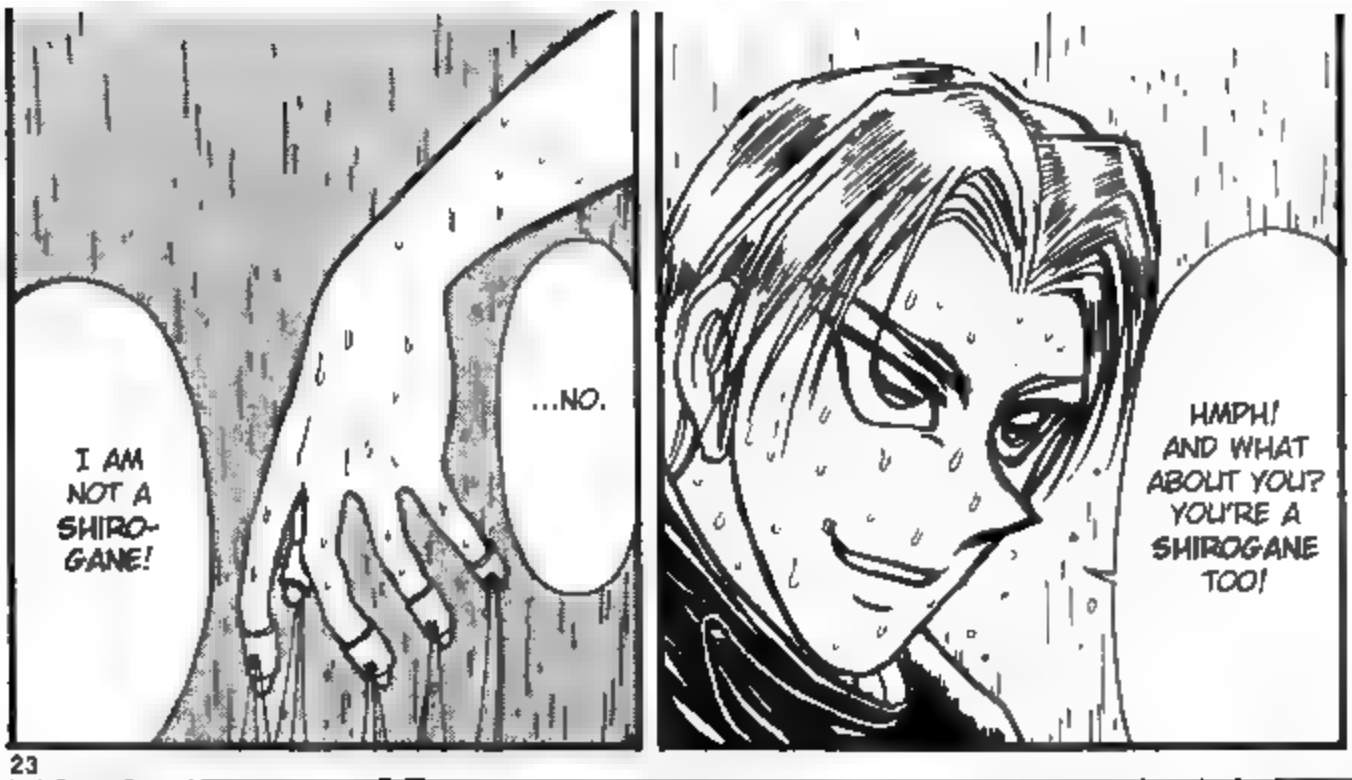
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WHAT DO YOU MEAN TO DO, ANGE-LINA?


THEY WERE MERE MACHINES, EXISTING ONLY TO DESTROY DOLLS.
WHETHER SHIROGANE WERE HUMAN, OR WHETHER PERHAPS...
I ALWAYS USED TO WONDER ...

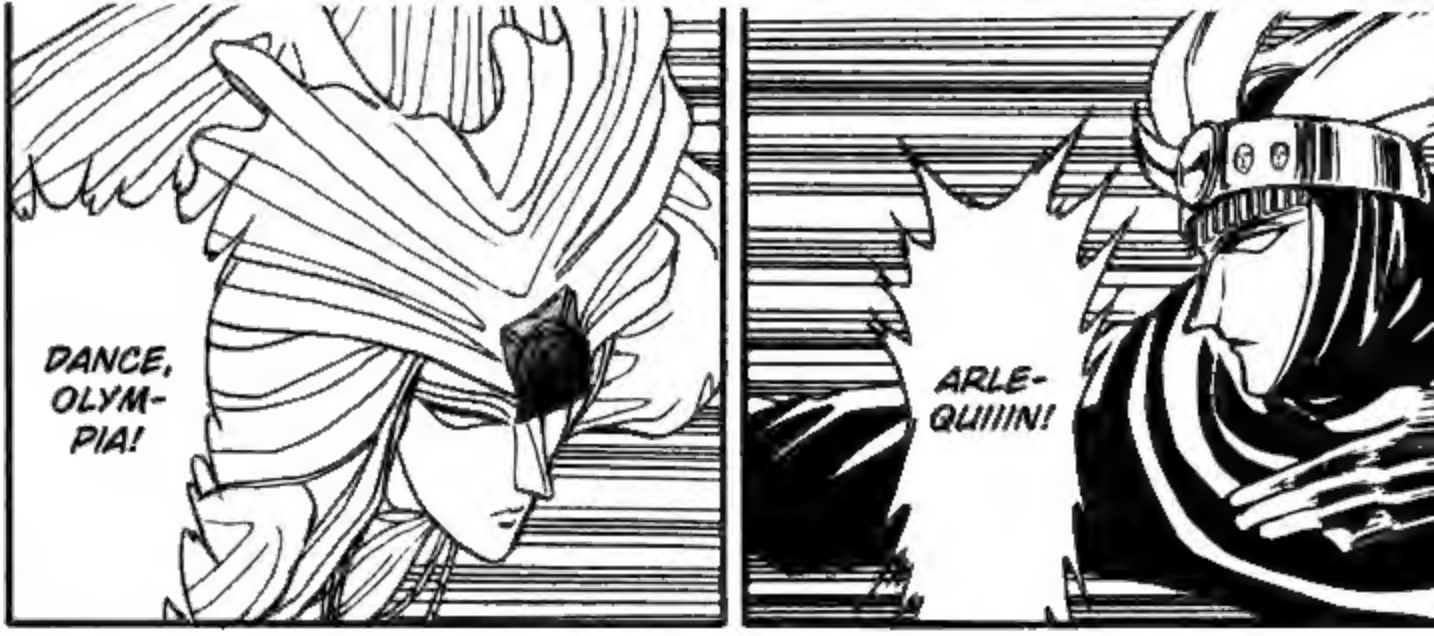

SHI-ROGANE ARE NOT HUMAN.
BUT WHEN I HEARD THOSE ORDERS YOU WERE GIVEN, I KNEW.


I AM NOT A SHIRO-GANE!
...NO.
HMPH! AND WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOU'RE A SHIROGANE TOO!


I AM A MOTHER!


AND JUST HOW IS SOME MATRON WITH A SWOLLEN BELLY ...
GOING TO BE ABLE TO STOP ME?!


YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE AN ADULT...
SO IT'S A FIGHT YOU WANT.
THIS WOMAN'S ANOTHER SELFISH FOOL.
I WILL NOT SURRENDER THIS BABY TO A LIFE LIKE MINE!


DANCE, OLYM-PIA!
ARLE-QUIIIN!


I WAS YOUNGER AND STRONGER.
THE FIGHT SHOULD HAVE ENDED RIGHT AWAY, IN MY VICTORY.


THE STRENGTH OF A MOTHER...
BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING I HAD YET TO LEARN ABOUT.


WHO IS FIGHTING TO PROTECT HER CHILD.

からくりサーカス㉔

少年サンデーコミックス

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NOTES:

pg. 11: 屋敷 (yashiki) has been used to describe both Sadayoshi's residence in Karuizawa and the residence of Kuroga Village's head. I've been translating this as "mansion", and both of those places can indeed be described as mansions, but this chapter makes it clear that it should have been "estate" instead.

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Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.